The Middlebury Campus

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COLLEGE HOSTS PREVIEW DAYS FOR CLASS OF 2021

OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS

The sun shone as hundreds of prospective students and their families flocked to campus for Preview Days, held from April 17-19.

College Poised To Create Education Studies Dual Major

By Amelia Pollard
Contributing Writer

The Education Studies (EDST) program has proposed a new double major, intended to compensate students' work towards obtaining teaching licensures with academic validation. Currently, the Education Studies (EDST) program only offers a minor, which students can take in one of two directions: a focus on general education studies or the attainment of a formal teaching license.

The Education Studies Program has for years enabled Middlebury students to obtain teaching licenses in the State of Vermont. The program has won popularity for its ability to provide insight into education as a discipline and how the system functions in America.

Although students are fortunate that Middlebury offers an education minor, the current system requires those who are pursuing teaching licenses to take 13 courses in elementary education or 12 courses in secondary education. These parameters exceed what is asked of most majors at the College, leading administrators to conclude that the demands do not fit the program's status as a minor.

Headed by Director Jonathan Miller-Lane, the EDST program has drafted a proposal that creates a double major, with Education Studies and another discipline of the student's choice, as the most advantageous way for students to fulfill the teaching license requirements.

The proposal was brought to the attention of the entire faculty on April 7 at the Faculty Plenary meeting, when the Educational Affairs Committee, a six-member body responsible for the direction of the undergraduate curriculum, endorsed the program after months of consideration.

At the meeting, the committee provided a summary of the agenda, stating that it embraced "the

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Rises in Financial Aid Cause Deficits

By Will DiGravio
News Editor

Editor's Note: This article is the first in a series that will examine the current financial state of the College. In recent years, the College has run budget deficits and has been forced to reign in spending in order to ensure long term financial stability. These articles will aim to inform the Middlebury community about the College's financial situation, dispel rumors, raise new questions and, hopefully, spark new debates about how the College operates and spends its money.

An increase in the number of students receiving financial aid has contributed to the College's recent financial woes, causing deficits and a need to reign in spending until greater endowment dollars can be raised.

At present, Middlebury's current goal each year is to admit a class in which 42-43 percent of students receive financial assistance from the College. However, in recent years, due to its need-blind admissions policy, the College has admitted a far greater percentage of students who require financial aid.

For the classes of 2018 and 2019, roughly 48 percent of students currently receive need-based scholarship support. The blended average is 44 percent when taking into account all other classes.

According to Executive Vice President for Finance and Administration David Provost, who took over the role in January of 2017, the College will operate at a deficit if the College continues to provide financial aid at current levels.

"If [the number of students on financial aid] ends up being, say, 48 percent in a given year, we will operate at a deficit, which we have in fact for the last four years," Provost said. "We're not covering our operating expenses with our operating revenue plus the endowment, so we're losing money."

Because the admissions process is need blind, the College does not know how many students will receive financial aid until the class has been admitted. The 42 percent mark is therefore difficult to precisely achieve.

"Need blind means you're looking at the application based on what it is independent of financial ability to pay. Then, once you say you're accepting that student, you deal with the consequences of whether or not a student does or doesn't need aid," Provost said. "That is why the number can fluctuate."

The College's decision to remain need blind and not compromise financial aid has resulted in the institution reigning in spending where necessary in order to minimize the yearly deficit.

"My goal is to get us to live within our means, without jeopardizing the academic experience for our students," Provost said. "Where can we as an organization, especially on the staff side, be more effective in what we do and how we do it so we're not incurring these losses."

According to Provost, the College plans to release five percent of its endowment, a number that is down from previous years and is a byproduct of making sure that the institution is spending within its means. Given the volatility of the market, the College does not project endowment returns, however, Provost said that this year's returns do look positive.

President of Middlebury Laurie L. Patton has said that increasing the number of students on financial aid is one of her top priorities. The first step in doing so, according to Provost, is to get the College to a point where losses are no longer being incurred. Then, a fundraising campaign will have to be conducted to bolster the endowment and funds for financial aid. In 2015, Middlebury concluded its largest fundraising campaign, during which it raised $535.5 million over eight years.

College Issues Update on Discipline for Murrary Protest

In a statement released by the Middlebury News Room on Monday, April 17, the College provided an update on the disciplinary measures it is pursuing against students who disrupted the speech by Charles Murray on March 2.

According to the press release, the College has identified over 70 individuals believed to be subject to disciplinary procedures under student handbook policies. Within that group, over 30 students have already accepted disciplinary sanctions.

The College elaborated that "there is no unambiguous evidence that any member of the Middlebury College faculty violated faculty policies" during the events of March 2. The statement revealed that the College is almost halfway through with its investigation, which it hopes to complete by the end of the academic year.

See next week's issue of the *Campus* for more coverage of the disciplinary proceedings.

RUSSIAN JOURNALIST TIKHON DZYADKO TO SPEAK

By Will DiGravio
News Editor

Tikhon Dzyadko, a Russian radio and television journalist, will deliver a lecture titled "The State of Democracy and Press Freedom in Russia: What Donald Trump Could (and Should Not) Learn from Vladimir Putin," on Wednesday, April 26 in McCardell BiCentennial Hall 104 from 4:30-6 p.m. His lecture is sponsored by the Russian department.

From 2010 to 2015, Dzyadko worked for TV Rain, one of the last independent television stations in Putin's Russia. Since leaving TV Rain, he has worked as a Washington correspondent for the the Ukrainian television station Inter, and currently works at RTVi, Russian-language television station based in New York.

The *Middlebury Campus* communicated with Dzyadko via email to discuss his upcoming lecture, U.S. President Donald Trump's relationship with the press, the state of journalism in Russia and the similarities between Trump and Russian President Vladimir Putin.

Will DiGravio (WD): Your lecture is titled "The State of De-

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SPRING SYMPOSIUM 2017

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At last year's Spring Symposium, Tianfang He '16 tells fellow students about his biochemistry research related to inflammation and breast cancer. The 2017 Spring Symposium will take place on April 21.

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By Kyle Naughton
SGA Correspondent

The April 9 meeting began with a discussion pertaining to election reform within the senate bylaws. President Karina Toy '17 proposed that the senate consider framing the election for Co-Chair of Community Council as a one-semester ticket where candidates would run for the spring and fall semesters separately. Such a change would allow students going abroad or living off campus for a semester to still run for the Co-Chair position.

The current Co-Chair, Travis Sanderson '19, asserted that an elected individual could still be effective while holding the position for a single semester.

Senator Wilson, however, shared that her entry into the SGA for just one semester was a difficult transition, and that a split election could potentially impede Co-Chair efficiency. The motion to split Co-Chair elections was then put to a vote, and with 11 in favor, 3 opposed and 3 abstained, it was ultimately passed.

President Toy then outlined the clarifying changes within her Bylaws Amendment Bill. Such changes formally clarify the amount of money allocated to campaigns, the length of Feb senate positions and the newly introduced split election process for the Co-Chair of Community Council. These alterations were unanimously passed with all senators in favor of the bill.

The senate discussed an Elections Council Bill that would call for a special meeting of the senate in response to an electoral tie. Each of the tied candidates would have five minutes to address the senate, which would be followed by a secret ballot among senators to break the tie. The President of the SGA would be allowed to cast a vote to alter any ties within the senate ballot.

Senator Aliza Cohen '17 expressed her concern that such a tiebreaking policy would diminish the democratic foundations of the SGA. Senator Nikki Lantigua '17 echoed this sentiment, asserting that this procedure would give too much power to the senate. In response to these concerns, the senate called a straw poll on the tiebreak proposal; 12 were opposed to the policy, while only 4 were in support.

As an alternative tiebreak policy, Senator John Goldfield '20 proposed the implementation of an additional runoff election between tied candidates. President Toy then provided additional guidelines of this additional election, specifying that tied candidates would have 12 hours to submit 100-word statements on why they should win, which would then be emailed to all relevant constituents before the 24-hour runoff election period starting at noon the following day. This revised policy was unanimously approved.

The April 17 meeting began with a reminder about Staff Appreciation Day, which will be held on April 20. President Toy then reviewed aspects of her Constitutional Reform Bill, which sought to rephrase certain Constitutional clauses and remove redundancy. This bill made alterations to the senator impeachment process, specifying that senators may not miss more than two meetings over the course of office, or no more than five meetings with a proxy substitute. It also asserted that meeting agendas and minutes should be sent out 48 hours prior to the next meeting as opposed to just 24 hours. The Reform Bill was unanimously approved.

Evelin Toth '17 Awarded Watson Fellowship

By Bridget Colliton
Contributing Writer

Evelin Toth '17 was recently awarded the prestigious Thomas J. Watson Fellowship. The Watson program, established in 1961, is a highly selective program that funds a year of international study for its forty-nine fellows. An environmental studies major and French minor, Toth plans to use her Watson year to study the effects of climate change on island communities.

Toth's project, titled "Adapting to the Rising Seas: Climate Change and Island Communities," will study the unique problems faced by these areas in handling the global issue of climate change.

"I decided to focus on islands, because island communities and ecosystems are particularly vulnerable to the effects of climate change. Due to this exceptional vulnerability, climate adaptation is a particularly acute issue in these places," Toth said.

Toth will travel to Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Taiwan, Samoa and Ecuador's Galapagos Islands and will connect with local NGOs and environmental activists to conduct her project. Toth hopes to gain a holistic view of how these communities alleviate problems related to climate change.

"While I have learnt a lot about climate change through an academic lens, I have always felt that in order to gain a profound understanding of its impacts, one has to engage with those communities that are directly affected by it," Toth said.

Toth's project will help her to better understand climate change and global solutions. "I think that my Watson experience will be a bittersweet journey; I will learn about how climate change is affecting people's lives and testing nature's resilience. But I am also hoping to see how this shared, global challenge can unite us and help us rethink our relationship with nature," Toth said.

Toth first learned about the Watson Fellowship her sophomore year and immediately knew that she wanted to apply for it. The application process began in the spring of her junior year and ended almost a year later.

"The Watson Fellowship pushes fellows to explore places where they have never been before. I grew up in Hungary, lived in Singapore for two years and moved to the States when I started college– engaging with people from different cultures and parts of the world has been an enriching experience in so many ways," Toth said.

After she completes her project, Toth will continue her studies at the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Management. "I am confident that the experiences I will gain during my Watson year will help me focus on the most crucial aspects of the climate problem in my future studies. Ultimately, I hope that the Watson year will make me be better prepared to join the global movement to combat climate change," Toth said.

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Evelin Toth '17 will study the effects of climate change on island communities in Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Taiwan, Samoa and the Galapagos Islands.

UMOJA TO HOST CONFERENCE ON FEMINISM IN AFRICA

By John Gosselin
Senior Writer

On April 22, UMOJA, the African Student Organization, will host its fifth annual AMKA Conference. According to Meron Benti '19, co-president of UMOJA, the goal of the conference is to "discuss a specific topic related to the African continent." This year's theme is "Feminism in Africa."

"We believe this is a topic that needs to be discussed because of its relevance to current African politics and because of the increasing movement for gender equality in the continent," Benti said. "Furthermore, we wanted to discuss the current roles of women in the continent through the words of African feminists who are currently working to help other women gain better education, work opportunities and good mentoring."

The first keynote speaker is Rainatou Sow, a Guinean women's rights activist based in London. Sow is the founder and CEO of Make Every Woman Count, an organization that works as a platform for women leaders, organizations, grassroots movements and activists seeking to empower African girls and women. Sow will discuss issues pertaining to gender equality and her organization's fight for women's liberation within and outside of the African continent.

The second keynote speaker is Moyattu Banya, professor of women's studies at Temple University and founder of Women Change Africa and Girls Empowerment Summit Sierra Leone. Through her work, Banya has been able to share significant accomplishments of African women bloggers, activists, feminists and entrepreneurs. She also holds leadership seminars for young women Sierra Leone.

Professor of Gender, Sexuality and Feminist Studies Sujati Moorti will also deliver opening remarks to help contextualize the discussion themes and start the conference. Sara Swett '17 and Erin Van Gessel '17.5 will also present on different perspectives of feminism and women leadership in Tanzania and South Africa.

"Ultimately, Umoja hopes this event will initiate a conversation on the Middlebury College campus on feminism in Africa that seeks to empower African women and their efforts rather than belittle them," Benti said.

COLLEGE SPONSORS SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH EVENTS, KEYNOTE

By Elizabeth Sawyer
Senior Writer

On April 11, sex and relationships educator Kate McCombs delivered the keynote address of the College's programming for Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month (SAAPM).

McCombs spoke about the importance of enthusiastic consent. "Enthusiastic consent is more than just 'can I touch you?'" she said. "[It] is about shifting from just avoiding a 'no' to seeking an eager yes." McCombs suggested that learning to get better at hearing no, working to make a partner feel comfortable saying no and learning to rethink

"I hope students see that violence response and prevention are important areas of work at the College."

BARBARA MCCALL
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH AND WELLNESS EDUCATION

consent as applying to every type of contact we have with other people, and not just to sex, are ways to start pursuing enthusiastic consent.

McCombs stressed the importance of improving communication skills in conversations that might normally be uncomfortable, and urged students to talk about sex outside the bedroom. "Good communication is what opens the door to finding out what you like," she said. "I want you to have sex that's good for you and for your partners– I want to encourage the idea that you will know what's best for you. There's no one-size-fits-all approach to good sex."

McCombs' talk followed the launch of the MiddSafe Online Advocate tool, a website that contains all of the resources of MiddSafe's 24 hour hotline. Advocates demonstrated how to use the website and answered questions in a reception in Crossroads. The Online Advocate can be accessed at go/onlineadvocate.

Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month is recognized nationally, and aims to raise public awareness about sexual assault and methods of prevention. The College's SAAPM events, sponsored by the Health and Wellness Education office, MiddSafe, Queers and Allies and Green Dot, included Green Dot Bystander Training, the launch of MiddSafe's Online Advocate tool, a consent-themed carnival called ConsentFest and a workshop entitled "Queering Sex Ed."

While programming for Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month has occurred annually at the College, ConsentFest was a new event to the College this year. "ConsentFest is based on a successful program model from other schools including Bentley University and Amherst College. [It] aims to create space for conversations and questions about consent," Director of Health and Wellness Education Barbara McCall wrote in an email to the *Campus*. Participants played games and spoke with representatives from various College offices and programs in the Axinn Winter Garden.

The Spring Symposium will also feature a number of academic presentations concerning sexual violence.

"I hope students see that violence response and prevention are important areas of work at the College," McCall said.

EDUCATION DUAL MAJOR APPROVED

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

idea of training students as teachers" and of "recognizing education as a discipline worthy of scholarly pursuit."

The proposition of an EDST double-major has now finally passed the first stage in the process of garnering support. Next comes a vote by the entire faculty, expected later this year.

"The committee studied it over several months, requested additional information, met with representatives of the program, and determined that the proposal merited their support," said Suzanne Gurland, the dean of curriculum and chair of the Educational Affairs Committee. "The full faculty will have the opportunity to discuss the proposal at an open meeting, and then to vote on it at a subsequent faculty meeting."

The interdisciplinary double-major will first become available to first-years arriving fall 2017, assuming the proposal is passed at the next faculty meeting. The double-major is aimed only at students who are pursuing an elementary- or secondary-education teacher's license. The minor in education will still be available for those who are interested in the field, but are not aspiring to teach. Education Studies, however, would not be available as a stand-alone major.

Students who opt to participate in the double-major must still enroll in a "professional semester" as was previously required with the minor. This involves a full-time teaching experience in a local school, which students may choose to do either during their senior year or during a ninth semester after graduation. This professional requirement enables students to gain real-life experience in teaching, under the guidance of a "master teacher" and a College advisor.

"The depth of students' learning in the licensure curriculum is akin to that in other majors, and involves substantially more coursework than a minor," Gurland said. "So if the proposal for a double-major passes, it will be a more accurate description of students' learning."

Russian Journalist to Deliver Lecture on Trump, Putin's Relationship with Press

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mocracy and Press Freedom in Russia: What Donald Trump could (and should not) learn from Vladimir Putin." What do you see as the greatest similarity between the ways in which Donald Trump and Vladimir Putin interact with the press?

Tikhon Dzyadko (TD): I would say that the greatest similarity is that Trump (as Putin) considers press as the "opposition party." He fights with it instead of admitting that the press is one of the most important instruments of democracy, the voice of the American people which he has to hear.

WD: In a 2014 piece in The Guardian, you wrote about how the Kremlin was able to undermine your independent TV news station "Rain" by excluding you from nearly all cable and satellite services and by putting pressure on advertisers. President Trump has labeled the American media as the "Opposition Party," and has suggested making changes to the country's libel laws in the wake of negative press coverage. Having experienced first-hand what it is like to be targeted by a government, what is your response to Donald Trump's rhetoric? What advice would you give to American journalists?

TD: It is tough because you are becoming marginal and you lose your right to spread your [message] to the audience. At the same time you're becoming a target of a campaign of misinformation against which you don't have enough tools to compete: all the main TV stations and newspapers are under control of the government. American journalists, I think, should realize that the situation with press freedom in the US is in danger and they should show solidarity and resist right now.

WD: What is the state of independent media in Russia? What do you see as the future of independent media in Russia?

TD: The state of independent media in Russia is in a bad shape and it's getting worse every month. The number of independent media is shrinking - the government is making their existence impossible by cutting its opportunities to make money and get to the audience. That's why the Internet and social media are becoming the real independent press in Russia.

WD: Many have called Donald Trump one of the most media savvy politicians in the country, citing his use of the media and, in particular, television news to spread his message and build his political profile. What is Vladimir Putin's relationship like with Russian TV news stations? Do you see similarities between him and Trump?

TD: I would argue that Trump is one of the most media savvy politicians in the country. Of course he is using it only the outlets which are friendly to him. Vladimir Putin is using Russian TV news stations only to spread his views to Russian people. News stations for him are not media but only the instruments of propaganda.

WD: Many Trump surrogates and supporters have used television news to spread misinformation in an attempt to legitimize and justify the actions of the president. Should networks provide a platform to individuals who spread misinformation on behalf of the president? How should networks hold those individuals accountable and make sure that the public is not misinformed?

TD: I think that networks should provide such a platform but they should be ready to respond. The anchors of these shows should be prepared well enough to show to the audience that the information these individuals are giving is actually a misinformation.

WD: Several weeks ago, the broadcaster Ted Koppel made headlines when he said that Sean Hannity of Fox News was bad for America. And last month, President Trump sent out a tweet urging people to tune into an episode Fox's "Justice w/ Judge Jeanine" later that night. During the episode, Jeanine blamed the failure of the Republican's healthcare bill on Paul Ryan, said the speaker let the president down, and called for his resignation. It is no secret that Donald Trump has an intimate relationship with Fox News. What do you make of this relationship? How is it similar and/or different from the relationship that Putin has with television networks in Russia?

TD: I think it's common for all leaders who don't like democracy. They consider media as their servants. That's why they only like the journalists who ask "nice" questions. And [those who don't] are "fake news." That's the very same thing that Vladimir Putin does in Russia.

WD: What advice would you give to young journalists who are interested in covering Donald Trump? What advice would you give to young journalists who are interested in working a country like Russia where the press's ability to report is under constant threat?

TD: I think in Trump's USA and in countries like Russia, journalists should be fearless (even if it's difficult) and they should not compromise a thing. Because if they do it once, they will definitely be asked to do it again.

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FORUM ON FREE SPEECH

The Middlebury SGA and *The Campus* are co-sponsoring a student panel. Students Ivan Valladares, Austin Khan, Will DiGravio, and Hannah Blackburn will attempt to answer the question: *What should free speech on Middlebury's campus look like?* Meiriely Amaral, a member of the SGA cabinet and board member of MiddLaw, will MC the event.

April 24 in Coltrane Lounge
4:00-6:00pm

In the midst of the recent Charles Murray incident, our campus has found itself again thrown into a difficult conversation concerning free speech, and we think it is high time that we take this conversation in a productive manner: attempting to define what free speech should look like on Middlebury's campus. In starting this conversation, this panel will discuss the meaning of free speech on campus and how as students we can work together to provide an inclusive and safe environment from all students.

HomeShare Vermont Celebrates 35th Anniversary

Amelia Pollard
Contributing Writer

Last year, Geoff, a 24-year-old graduate of St. Michael's College with a degree in Philosophy, was looking for affordable housing in Vermont. Del, an 89-year-old retired G.E. and I.B.M. employee, was seeking a housemate willing to provide company. The two were united through HomeShare Vermont, a nonprofit organization that matches people who are looking for reasonable housing prices with a homeowner with a spare room. The two now switch off cooking meals and often watch "M-A-S-H" or go on hikes together.

HomeShare Vermont initially began as a program to match elderly people living alone with younger individuals willing to help out around the house, allowing senior citizens to stay at home longer. The program was founded on reciprocity, and acts as a traditional bartering service. HomeShare "guests" do pay a small rental fee, but last year this averaged only $230 a month, typically saving renters hundreds of dollars.

Formerly known as Project Home, HomeShare Vermont is now celebrating its 35th anniversary, founded in 1982 by a group of volunteers. The program was launched with the help of several University of Vermont professors and has continued to expand over the decades, eventually becoming an independent 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization under the leadership of Kirby Dunn, the executive director of the organization. Although it began in Chittenden County, HomeShare Vermont now serves Grand Isle, Addison and Franklin Counties.

In order to ensure that housemates are paired properly, the process involves a rigorous matching service in which applicants are required to provide three references and must also undergo five different background checks. After participants are deemed a "match," there is a two-week trial period in which the two live together to see if they are compatible. The methodical process has resulted in a 90 percent success rate.

Established as a prominent nonprofit organization in the state, HomeShare Vermont has also received international attention for its services. At the first International HomeShare Congress in Paris in 2009, HomeShare Vermont served as the sole representative for the United States. HomeShare programs in other countries are more focused on providing affordable housing for students.

> ***"That's something that we want to explore in the future: to have a closer working relationship with the local colleges. That's one thing we've seen elsewhere that we'd love to incorporate."***
>
> KIRBY DUNN
> EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF HOMESHARE VERMONT

"That's something that we want to explore in the future: to have a closer working relationship with the local colleges," Kirby Dunn, executive director of HomeShare Vermont, said. "That's one thing we've seen elsewhere that we'd love to incorporate."

To celebrate its anniversary, HomeShare Vermont is hosting an event in South Burlington today, April 20. The event is inspired by Moth, a storytelling initiative that has a program at the College in which people recount powerful, humorous or emotional moments in their lives. Moth was first heard on Moth Radio Hour on public radio — creating a platform for real people to recount true events. Two award-winning Moth storytellers, Sue Schmidt and Kevin Gallagher, will headline the celebration. The stories of the evening will center on home life and the joy of living with others.

The event will ideally convey a sense of why organizations like HomeShare Vermont are integral for facilitating these close, home connections through shared experience. The anniversary event will also include live music, with performances by the band The Brevity Thing.

The success of HomeShare Vermont in the last 35 years has made the group's leaders want to continue growing the program. The initiative is looking to offer a consulting service to help other organizations around the country establish programs based on the model. "There are a lot of opportunities here," Dunn said. "The need is only going to increase because we have an aging population and affordable housing continues to be a growing problem; and we meet both of those needs. There's a major role for us in the future."

KAREN PIKE

Left to right: Kirby Dunn with Addison County volunteers Ruth Barenbaum, Judy Serry, Diana Cotter, Becky Stratton, Connie Kenna and Manya Dickinson.

Vermont Senate Passes Shield Law Bill

James Finn
Contributing Writer

A Vermont state senate committee voted unanimously on March 22 to pass a media "shield" bill. The bill will protect Vermont journalists from having to disclose sensitive information obtained in interviews in court cases, particularly confidential information obtained from sources off the record, according to *Seven Days Vermont*. In order to become law, the bill will have to pass before the second chamber of the Senate, according to *Seven Days*.

In the past, Vermont journalists could face steep daily fines and potential jail time if they failed to disclose information provided to them by sources in court, even information obtained off the record, according to *Seven Days*. Judges, prosecutors, defense attorneys and other court officials could file subpoenas to obtain any information obtained by reporters, including sensitive off-the-record material, that they deemed pertinent to court cases.

Prior to the bill passing, Vermont was one of only 10 states that lacked significant shield law protection for its reporters. Most states have laws in place that provide significant protection against courts seizing information obtained by journalists in interviews, according to *USA Today*.

In a story for *Seven Days*, Ken Picard wrote that the shield law will help journalists continue to hold government accountable.

"Journalists contend that when the legal system coerces them into testifying, it makes them appear to be acting as an investigative arm of law enforcement," Picard wrote. "As a consequence, they lose the independence they need to carry out their constitutionally protected role of holding government accountable."

"Reporters really shouldn't be seen as arms of the police or the prosecution," Vermont Public Radio news director John Dillon told *USA Today*.

The bill provides journalists with new protections against having to give up confidential information, specifically surrounding off the record interviews. Per the bill, information obtained by reporters on the record will still be accessible via subpoena, but only in extreme or extenuating circumstances. Confidential interviews obtained off the record will not be accessible, even in extreme circumstances, according to *VPR*.

Vermont Attorney General T.J. Donovan said that this bill presents a significant step forward in advancing Vermont's freedoms of the press.

"From a principled standpoint, we want a free and unfettered press in this state, and this bill goes a long way in supporting that," Donovan said in testimony before the Senate.

Some parties expressed concern about ambiguity of some of the bill's language, which they say could lead people who are not necessarily journalists to claim protection under the new law. Executive Director of the Vermont Department of State Attorneys and Sheriffs John Campbell was one of them.

"We have to point out some of the darker sides here," Campbell told *VPR*. "Wherever there is a keyboard or a recording device, there is a potential for someone to claim that the source from where they got the information was in fact protected."

SEAN METCALF (SEVEN DAYS VERMONT)

Recent prosecution of *Seven Days* and *VPR* journalists played a role in newfound support for the bill. In 2016, *VPR* and *Seven Days* reporters were subpoenaed while reporting on a sexual assault case involving former Vermont State Senator Norm McAllister, according to *USA Today*. While several of the subpoenas were later dropped, two remained in place until the passing of the March 22 bill.

Past cases played a role in the bill's advancement. *Rutland Herald* reporter Susan Smallheer was subpoenaed in 1992 while investigating Charles Gundlah, a suspect in a murder case at the time. Smallheer refused to disclose what she had found even after being subpoenaed and faced time in jail as a result, according to *Seven Days*. "[I didn't disclose the information] because my life as a reporter would have been over if I had to testify for the prosecution," she told *Seven Days*. "No one would trust me."

Seven Days Political Editor Paul Heintz expressed similar sentiment surrounding motivations for the bill. "To do our job, we have to have the trust of our sources," Heinz told *VPR*. "Our sources will not trust us and will not speak to us if they believe that we are going to end up on the stand talking about what it is they've told us, whether it's on the record or off the record."

Middlebury Foods in the Spotlight

By Ellie Greenberg
Contributing Writer

Tables are set up in a line, speed-dating style—only instead of dating, think farming.

Around 30 Vermont growers (consisting of produce and livestock farmers, cheese makers and product makers of soup and energy bars) gathered at the Buyers and Growers Forum in Middlebury in March of 2016. Hosted by the Addison County Relocation Network, the forum aimed to connect growers with people interested in the local food system.

Vermont farmer Paul Horton approached two Middlebury students in attendance with a statement that caught their attention. "I have over one thousand pounds of leftover onions. Can you guys take them?"

The two students looked at one another and nodded in amazement – the onions could certainly be added to next month's produce supply for Middlebury Foods.

Middlebury Foods, an entirely student-run nonprofit grocery distribution program, provides local, fresh and healthy food to families in Addison County every month. Middlebury Foods' website describes a process in which the organization replaces the supermarket middleman by buying directly from wholesale distributers which, in turn, saves the customers around 20 to 50 percent of the typical supermarket cost. Making healthy food more affordable has a significant impact on a community where, according to Hunger Free Vermont, one in five Addison County children is food insecure.

Started in the fall of 2013 with a grant from the Middlebury's Center for Social Entrepreneurship, Middlebury Foods delivers produce monthly in bulk to six different sites across Addison County where customers can quickly and efficiently pick up their prearranged box of fresh produce. According to the organization's current procurement manager Mike Pallozzi '18.5, Middlebury Foods moves a tremendous amount of local food each month: around 3,000 to 5,000 pounds of produce plus an additional 1,000 to 1,500 pounds of meat, eggs, cheese, pasta, coffee and bread to almost 300 families each month.

"Since the buyers and growers forum last March, there has been a tremendous push towards offering our customers a complete variety of local products," Pallozzi said.

Middlebury Foods intertwines students, community members and farmers in such a way that everybody benefits: the students work to run this nonprofit while simultaneously meeting people beyond the College's boundaries; the farmers are able to grow more produce and reach a larger quantity of buyers; the community has access to fresh, healthy and affordable food. But Middlebury Foods is about more than the local produce–it is about the interactions and the relationships formed.

Farmers and Food

Emphasizing the importance of a localized food network, Middlebury Foods has recently pushed to focus on local farms when gathering produce for the monthly food drops. Currently, Middlebury Foods sources from more than 10 different farmers and producers based in Addison County.

"Under my leadership as procurement manager a ton has changed," Pallozzi said. "Mostly the introduction and ever-expanding line of locally-sourced products that consist of meats, dairy, eggs, bread and pastas."

The 1,000 pounds of leftover onions farmer Paul Horton offered to Middlebury Foods proved to be the birth of an important relationship between his farm and the organization. Following the onion incident, Horton provided new and more produce to Middlebury Foods each month until he eventually became the most consistent source for Middlebury Foods.

Pallozzi and other members of Middlebury Foods visited Horton's farm last year to meet with Horton and learn about his production model. Prior to the trip down to Foggy Meadow Produce in Benson, Pallozzi had only spoken with Horton on the phone and met him once during the onion encounter. "I had never gotten to see his farm or how he ran his operation," Pallozzi recalls.

"He took four hours out of his day ... to sit down and carefully explain the process and thinking behind his farm."

This encounter was important for Pallozzi because it laid the groundwork for a meaningful relationship with not only Horton and Foggy Meadow Produce, but with future farmers providing for Middlebury Foods.

"Meeting Paul Horton made me appreciate a whole lot more what he does. The relationship we built with him pushes us to reach out to other farmers to see how they run their operations," Pallozzi said.

And the farmers appreciate the effort.

The relationship with Middlebury Foods has enabled Paul Horton to grow extra produce in the fall, keep it in storage facilities throughout the winter and distribute the produce monthly to Pallozzi and the rest of the Middlebury Food volunteers.

"Middlebury Foods has been a good, steady account," Horton said. "They have a great mission and are wonderful to deal with – I am glad to be a part of it."

Community

Pallozzi first got involved with Middlebury Foods his sophomore fall. After spending time volunteering at the College's Organic Farm, Pallozzi knew he wanted to invest more time in Vermont's local food and agriculture scene.

"I started by just going to deliveries and talking with local businesses," Pallozzi said. "Middlebury Foods spoke out to me because every month you are interacting with people who live in this community."

Addison County resident Sue Schweppe, a frequent Middlebury Foods customer, is one of the community members Pallozzi has met through his work with the organization.

"I've been very impressed," Schweppe said of Middlebury Foods, referencing their "easy to use" website, order reminders and several pick-up locations. "They really have it together," she added.

Middlebury Foods organizes five different bags filled with different produce each month. From the Essentials Bag (containing root veggies) to the Meat Box (a combination of three different meat offerings), the students volunteering with Middlebury Foods come together to prearrange various produce boxes based on what is fresh.

MIDDLEBURYFOODS.COM

Middlebury Foods is an entirely student-run nonprofit grocery distribution program that provides healthy food to families in Addison County every month.

"I don't choose the monthly produce," Schweppe said. "And so sometimes I get items I wouldn't normally buy in a supermarket. This way, I am given an opportunity to try something new."

The blog, a feature of Middlebury Foods' website, provides recipes and cooking ideas inspired by the monthly produce available and provided.

But beyond the tangible impact of the produce Schweppe receives every month is the relationship she has developed with, as she describes, the "very passionate and friendly" Middlebury students. "It is very nice to see the College represented in such a strong, positive face," Schweppe said.

Students

The sense of community trust and relationship building is a two-way street, felt strongly by the Middlebury students as well. Middlebury Foods exposes student volunteers to new people and experiences beyond the confines of a classroom.

In his first semester at Middlebury, Charlie Mitchell '18 was encouraged by a friend to consider volunteering for Middlebury Foods. Three years later, Mitchell holds a central role in the organization, currently working with the Development Team. Mitchell's main responsibilities include fundraising and strategic planning for the nonprofit.

Through his work with Middlebury Foods, Mitchell has met numerous members of Addison County's community from the director of the United Way, Department of Health, Parent/Child Center, to school foodservice directors and principals, Legion Commanders, farmers, cheesemakers, distributors and the local families during monthly pickups.

"Middlebury Foods is my favorite excuse to get to know incredibly smart and dedicated leaders who are working every day to make our community better," Mitchell said.

With the success of Middlebury Foods, it is easy to forget that the organization is completely student-run. Students pick up and deliver the produce. Students organize, finance and run Middlebury Foods – all on a volunteer basis. Middlebury Foods was founded, exists and is successful today because of the time and effort students have invested into helping Middlebury Foods make an impact on the Addison County community.

While Middlebury Foods does influence the community, the organization is simultaneously imparting lasting effects on the student volunteers.

"I have learned almost everything I've learned at Middlebury from Middlebury Foods," Mitchell said. "It's taught me how to conduct meetings, organize a business and a nonprofit, improvise and solve problems, initiate, develop and sometimes end relationships, communicate with and try to inspire my peers, network and follow up in the community and College and lead effectively."

Pallozzi, too, is grateful for the community network he has established through working with the nonprofit. "I think Middlebury Foods has opened my eyes to what this community is actually like," Pallozzi said. "We spend a lot of time working with dining and facilities; real people that make this place work, even though it's usually behind the scenes."

In talking about the community, Pallozzi added, "It is a beautiful place."

Middlebury Foods is successful in bringing fresh, local and affordable produce to community members each month. But the organization is also successful in creating and building lasting relationships between students and the community.

As the semester and classes wind to a close, Middlebury Foods is working hard to prepare an anxious and excited group of interns to embrace the busiest time of the year. Summer means new produce, new products and new projects as interns are able to devote extra time to Middlebury Foods without the worry of course work. Who knows? Maybe a bag will include a few of Horton's onions this summer.

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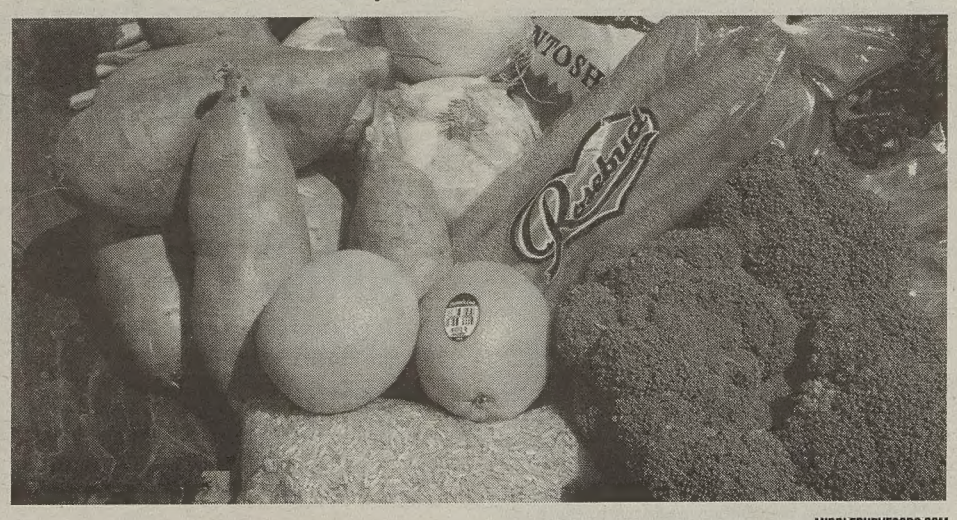
Middlebury Foods started in the fall of 2013 with a grant from Middlebury's CSE.



MIDDLEBURYFOODS.COM

Middlebury Foods gets its produce from more than 10 different farmers in Addison.

OPINIONS

Disclaimer: Reader op-eds do not reflect the opinion of *The Middlebury Campus* editorial board.

In Defense of an Intersectional Education

EDITORIAL

The editorial represents the official opinion of the editorial board of The Middlebury Campus

The liberal arts curriculum advertises itself as preparing us with skills that will apply to any job we might take while offering a selection of classes that spans a multitude of academic disciplines. In some ways, the curriculum is changing, in others it remains deeply rooted in tradition. Some departments are more traditional than others; English majors are expected to be familiar with great works from Shakespeare to modernists and Gender, Sexuality and Feminist Studies majors study works that critique traditional, culturally determined lines of thought — but they all come away with the skills to write, articulate their ideas and critically analyze the world around them. We write today to commend Middlebury on the strides it has taken in making our education more broad and inclusive and to encourage even more breadth and interdisciplinary study that will allow us to modernize our education and experience different perspectives.

Starting next semester, the changes to the AAL requirement will go into effect. For those not in the know, students have been campaigning to alter the AAL requirement for several years now, the argument being that current cultural requirements are euro-centric and lump all cultures that are not North American or European together. Students are currently required to take one course concerning North America, one concerning Europe, one comparative and then one from literally anywhere else. The new requirement will separate North and South Asia, Africa, the Middle East and Latin America and make a more equitable representation of cultures a part of the Middlebury experience. There will be five regions of which you will have to get credits in three plus a comparative credit. This gives more agency to students in crafting their own education and it will be possible to avoid a euro-centric education if one wishes.

Middlebury faculty are also considering an Education major for the first time (so long as it is a double major) which will give students teaching credentials in Vermont. Among other developments, there is now a movement to expand the American Sign Language offerings and the College has started to offer newer classes in journalism and finance. We applaud these moves that we believe will move Middlebury forward in fostering an inclusive, modern education.

We have also seen the introduction of academic clusters — food studies, privilege and poverty, the global health minor — that allow students to acknowledge and follow trends in their studies even across traditional academic disciplines. These clusters cross departmental boundaries from economics to anthropology to environmental studies to literature. We encourage the school to continue to foster these relevant and interdisciplinary clusters and advise students to take advantage of them. We also believe that there are ways to make existing classes more interdisciplinary and far-reaching. One way to do this would be more interdepartmental communication and collaboration. For example, more professors could invite their colleagues more frequently to present, for example, both anthropological and economic sides of the same issue, or else literary and social theory. More classes could be joint taught by professors and cross-listed between departments. Many professors have studied the same historical moments, cultural movements and novels in their various disciplines. J-term is a prime example both of where interdisciplinary classes already happen and a prime opportunity to have more of them. Another great example of an already-existing major that is interdisciplinary and interdepartmental is neuroscience, which draws on psychology, biology and even philosophy courses.

By making our experience more wide-ranging, more diverse and allowing us to think about issues in a variety of ways, the Middlebury curriculum can continue to evolve with the times and keep the liberal arts education relevant. We commend the College on the ways it has already helped the Middlebury experience to evolve and encourage the Middlebury community at large to continue to think critically about the education we are receiving and how to make that education as intentional and as relevant as possible.

The Middlebury Campus

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Mobilizing Money

NOTES FROM THE DESK

***Edward O'Brien '17,** writes in about political organizing as it relates to class and income*

Class is a tricky subject in the US, particularly since it is considered impolite to acknowledge it exists. Surveys show that most Americans, excepting only the bottom 20 percent and the top two percent of income earners, believe themselves to be middle class. Now, in the Trump era, class is often used to silence discussions about race. It is not uncommon to hear people point to the white working-class as a way to erase and ignore accounts of racial oppression. The truth about the interaction between class and race is, like most things, more complicated.

Class — like gender, sexual orientation or race — is an experience and identity that informs and is informed by one's other experiences and identities, and that indicates a relation to power. Racial oppression and economic oppression are intimately linked. So it is unfortunate when mainstream media pits them against each other, arguing over which of them is "the real issue." Many forms of racial oppression are economic — white flight in many places depressed housing prices which in turn has led to lower property taxes being collected in these areas which led to lower-quality education in many poor Black neighborhoods which, in turn keeps income levels down and dropout rates up — more on that next week! Likewise, rural working-class people experience similar depressed property prices that coincide with underfunded educations and that make it nearly impossible to move to economically prosperous areas. The median home price in Nebraska is $147,000, and the median home price in San Francisco is $1,147,000 — literally $1 million more than half the houses in Nebraska. This makes it almost financially impossible to move from a place of economic stagnation to a place of economic prosperity, which in turn makes it harder for people from these areas to gain access to high quality education and higher incomes. In this case, however, there is economic oppression, but not racial oppression. Property prices are depressed but not because of white flight. It is important to look at the real mechanisms of oppression, both economic and racial, and how they inform each other, not how they contradict each other.

Class, while often invisible to those who fit Middlebury's wealthy mold, is also very much at play on Middlebury's campus. Middlebury is a unique place in terms of class; it is a generally liberal campus, but it is also a campus where 23 percent of the student body come from families that make over $650k a year, where 70 percent of the student body come from families in the top 20 percent of earners, where the median family salary is $244k, where more than half the student body pays $65k+ in tuition out of pocket, and where only 14 percent of the student body comes from the bottom 60 percent of American earners. By contrast, we live in a county with a median income of $55,000 — not at all below the national average but significantly less wealthy than this campus.

That was a lot of numbers, but the idea is that we are living on a campus where extreme wealth is normal. What feels "middle-class" at Middlebury is probably upper-class to the rest of the world. This is not a crime, but it is an opportunity. By remaining silent about class we normalize Middlebury's wealth and marginalize the experiences of less affluent students. By talking about it and organizing around it, we can effect change.

Since Trump was elected, people have been asking how to use their privilege to organize effectively. Mobilizing money is one of the most concrete forms of leveraging one's privilege for social justice — whether that be donating to HOPE VT (Helping Overcome Poverty's Effects) or divesting from fossil fuels or actively racist companies. Making money move can make a difference. It is also a way to make our campus more economically friendly, particularly if we can institute wealth redistribution among students and put more college events on a graduated pay scale.

In the coming weeks, I will write about the mechanisms of racialized economic oppression, the classed nature of white normativity, and critiques of philanthropy. If anyone is interested in mobilizing wealth, learning more about class in a way that is coherent with anti-racist ideologies, having open and honest inter-class discussions, wealth redistribution, impact investing, fundraising, personal divestment and/or any other way we can organize around class for social justice go to go/middmovingmoney to learn more or email middmovingmoney@gmail.com.

An Apology for Endorsing Charles Murray

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

***Bert Johnson, chair of the Political Science Department** apologizes for endorsing Charles Murray.*

Earlier this year I, as chair of the political science department, offered a symbolic departmental co-sponsorship to the Charles Murray event in the same way that I had done with other events in the past: on my own, without wider consultation. This was a mistake.

Last week, I apologized to my departmental colleagues for this closed decision-making process, and I apologize now to the broader Middlebury community. The short amount of time between when the event became public and when it occurred gave all of us scant opportunity to listen to and understand alternative points of view. Most importantly, and to my deep regret, it contributed to a feeling of voicelessness that many already experience on this campus, and it contributed to the very real pain that many people – particularly people of color – have felt as a result of this event.

As we debate what to do next, I look forward to hearing from the college-wide committee on invited speakers that is currently taking shape, as well as from my departmental colleagues and our department's student advisory committee. I thank all of the members of the college community who have shared their views with me, with the department, and with the college administration over the past few months. I will continue to listen.

Letter to the Authors of "Why Middlebury Kids Should Choose MacBooks"

READER OP-ED

***Jackson Adams '17** writes in about the Middlebury College Bookstore's endorsement of Macbooks last week*

Dear Middlebury College Bookstore Staff,

In last week's *Campus*, you published an advertisement for Apple products, sold by the miniature Apple Store that resides in the back of our campus bookstore, thinly veiled as an op-ed. I herein discuss my three grievances with that piece:

(1) It was factually inaccurate.
(2) It displayed casual financial classism.
(3) It endorses a product/company without explicitly disclosing the fact that the authors (you the MC bookstore staff) are agents of the product/company being endorsed.

Let's start by making one thing clear. Apple is not some glorious, rebellious liberator, as they portray themselves in their famous 1984 advert, nor are PC users ignorant balding white men as portrayed in Apple's early 2000's campaign — though both caricatures shine through in your article — Macs and PCs simply represent two reasonable choices in the world of computing.

Your op-ed asserts that MacOS is clearly superior, but as the laptop review site The Wirecutter wrote in February of this year in its article "What Laptop Should I Buy," "MacOS and Windows have never been more similar, and most popular apps have versions that work just as well on either platform." Furthermore, "it's easier than ever to switch between the two." Matt Weinberger of Business Insider wrote an article a couple of months ago aptly titled, "The Whole 'Mac vs. PC' Thing Is So Over," where he explains, "because so much of what we do these days is based in the browser and in the cloud, Mac versus PC is no longer a lifestyle decision like it was back when boxed software ruled all. It's just a matter of taste."

You also suggest that Macs are no harder to troubleshoot than PCs, yet many people fervently disagree. For example, Shan Zeng, a student worker at the Middlebury Helpdesk, says, "PCs are much easier to troubleshoot than Macs." She went on to stress that, "The problems that show up on Macs are rather irreversible, most often sudden breakdown of hard drives. In PCs there will be warnings, and other signs that allow one to take preventive measures." As for Macs needing tech support less frequently, Zeng again disagrees. "I see more Mac issues than PC at the helpdesk."

Now we reach grievance number two, the subtle classism of your suggestion that everyone come in and buy a Mac. The reality is that, for many, a $1,500 matte-metallic status symbol is out of the budget and out of the question. Senior Klaudia Wojciechowska put it this way: "Writing an article about why Midd kids 'should choose Macbooks' without acknowledging that not everyone can afford them — so buying PC's is not a 'choice' — completely ERASES the fact that poor Midd kids like myself exist on this campus (who would have thought?!)." For students and families who struggle to afford Middlebury tuition, your ad suggesting everyone go buy a Mac is pretty tone deaf. To your suggestion that financing options might be available in the future, Wojciechowska notes sardonically, "You're willing to set up a financing plan for me? Great. Add that to the other tuition loans I have."

You, the MC Bookstore Staff, are boldly misinformed on the topic of price. It is true that IBM found that it is cheaper for their employees to use Macs instead of PCs, but IBM is a large enterprise with massive negotiated software licensing agreements and niche needs. Their experience is nothing like that of individual students on college campuses. If we really, truly cared about software expense, we would encourage the use of Linux variants, perhaps ChromeOS.

"If you want to advertise in the Campus, more power to you, but do so the right way. Don't be disingenuous: pay up."

This goes beyond a difference of opinion; your Op-Ed flouted reality. Macs are not cheaper than the equivalent PC, even when the costs are spread out over the lifetime of the product (and even accounting for resale value, about which you also proffered misinformation). Take the Dell XPS 13 versus the equivalent MacBook Pro. The former is $1125 while the latter retails for $1499. Budget can't stretch that far? You could get an Asus ZenBook with nearly identical specs for only $699. Less than half the price! Even the cheapest MacBook rings in at $1,200 and will offer significantly worse performance. (And for those of you thinking about Apple's student discount, know this: student discounts are available from most major computer manufacturers, not just Apple).

Need something even cheaper? Modern Chromebooks start at just $179. Any student who needs to store large files, have long battery life, strong portability and use pretty much any web application (as well as upcoming Android app porting) might want to look toward Google.

And finally, we arrive at issue 3: the fact that you all submitted your ad to the *Campus* as an op-ed. Shame on you, and shame on the *Campus* editors who agreed to run it. At best, your op-ed qualifies as sponsored content. You, the bookstore, make money off Apple sales so you were plugging your own brand. Most weeks I write a financial markets column for the *Campus*. You'll notice I don't use it to pump penny stocks or hawk personal financial services. If you want to advertise in the *Campus*, more power to you, but do so the right way. Don't be disingenuous: pay up. The *Campus* is not free to produce, and I will not have it taken for a shill.

Reflections on a Service Year at Middlebury

READER OP-ED

***Emma McDonald '16 and Katie Carpenter** write about their service years with AmeriCorps VISTA*

The Center for Community Engagement is hiring for two AmeriCorps VISTA positions, a Poverty Initiatives Coordinator, and a Youth and Mentoring Programs Coordinator, to serve a one-year term starting in August 2017. Emma McDonald '16 and Katie Carpenter, who are currently serving in these roles, share about their experience so far this year and what drew them to these positions.

Emma (Poverty Initiatives Coordinator): With graduation just a month away last spring, I wasn't sure what I would do next. I thought first about far-away options and exciting, new places, as Middlebury students often do. But as I reflected on my experiences at Middlebury and all the opportunities I didn't have time for (or didn't make time for), the idea of sticking around for another year became more and more attractive.

It took me a while as a student to get outside the Middlebury "bubble." By the time I realized how much there was to learn from the Middlebury community beyond the College, it was time to graduate. Many students figure this out before I did, but for me, another year here let me make up for lost time. Without academic responsibilities, I have had time this year to think deeply about College-community connections, to better understand the nuances in these relationships, the complexities of a liberal arts institution and what it means for Middlebury to be "the town's college." There is so much going on in Middlebury that many students don't see – and adding a year of awareness to my narrow student perspective has impressed upon me how much there is to learn at Middlebury outside of the classroom.

I have learned about the complexities and sensitivities of community and higher education work. I understand better the challenges Vermont faces, and the efforts of different organizations to combat issues like hunger, homelessness and racial discrimination with skill and nuance. I have gotten to know community members working in government agencies, schools, and nonprofits, and I have seen how community meetings like the Addison County Hunger Council enhance their collaboration on important issues. I have observed staff and faculty facilitate students connecting theories from their coursework to local contexts and narratives through the Privilege & Poverty Academic Cluster, the program I help to coordinate.

"These programs give children and young people space to feel seen and heard by a caring, non-family adult, and encourage them to pursue their interests and practice decision-making."

I came to Middlebury for the classes, but I stayed for the community. I'll leave knowing that I am grateful to Middlebury for both of these things. To students preparing to graduate: there is value and merit in moving on from Middlebury, but there is also promise in staying put.

Katie (Youth and Mentoring Programs Coordinator): Unlike Emma, I didn't go to Middlebury, so moving to the area was a new experience for me. I primarily chose to do a service year because I liked that AmeriCorps, rather than running a top-down service year program, places its members directly with agencies that plan out what the AmeriCorps member will be doing. I felt that this approach would allow me to do service that was well integrated into the organization and communities I was living and working in. I haven't been disappointed, and through my role supporting youth and mentoring programs, I have gotten the opportunity to live in Addison County and learn about the area schools and organizations that form a network of support for children and youth. Similarly to Emma, I feel that being at meetings where organizations come together and discuss shared challenges has been a valuable learning experience for me, and has given me a sense of what a well-functioning professional network can look like.

Most of all, I have really loved my service year so far because of the work I've gotten to do. This VISTA role acts as a youth and mentoring programs coordinator for CCE-advised student organizations (like DREAM, MiddCAM,and Community Friends) and promotes College Positive Volunteerism. College Positive Volunteerism is the idea that children and youth who spend time with college students, hang out on college campuses, or talk about college with an adult role model will more easily envision themselves attending a postsecondary institution. To this end, I get to work with students who are connecting with children and teens in the area by leading after school programs, building one-to-one mentoring relationships, participating in group mentoring, running healthy food taste tests or supporting youth through their college application process. These programs give children and young people space to feel seen and heard by a caring, non-family adult, and encourage them to pursue their interests and practice decision-making. I also support these programs by connecting with professional school staff such as guidance counselors and afterschool program coordinators. Helping to facilitate these relationships being built by Middlebury College students and young people has been a deeply rewarding experience that has given me a greater sense of clarity and purpose about what I want from my professional life going forward.

To find out more about these positions and how to apply, please visit go/middVISTA.

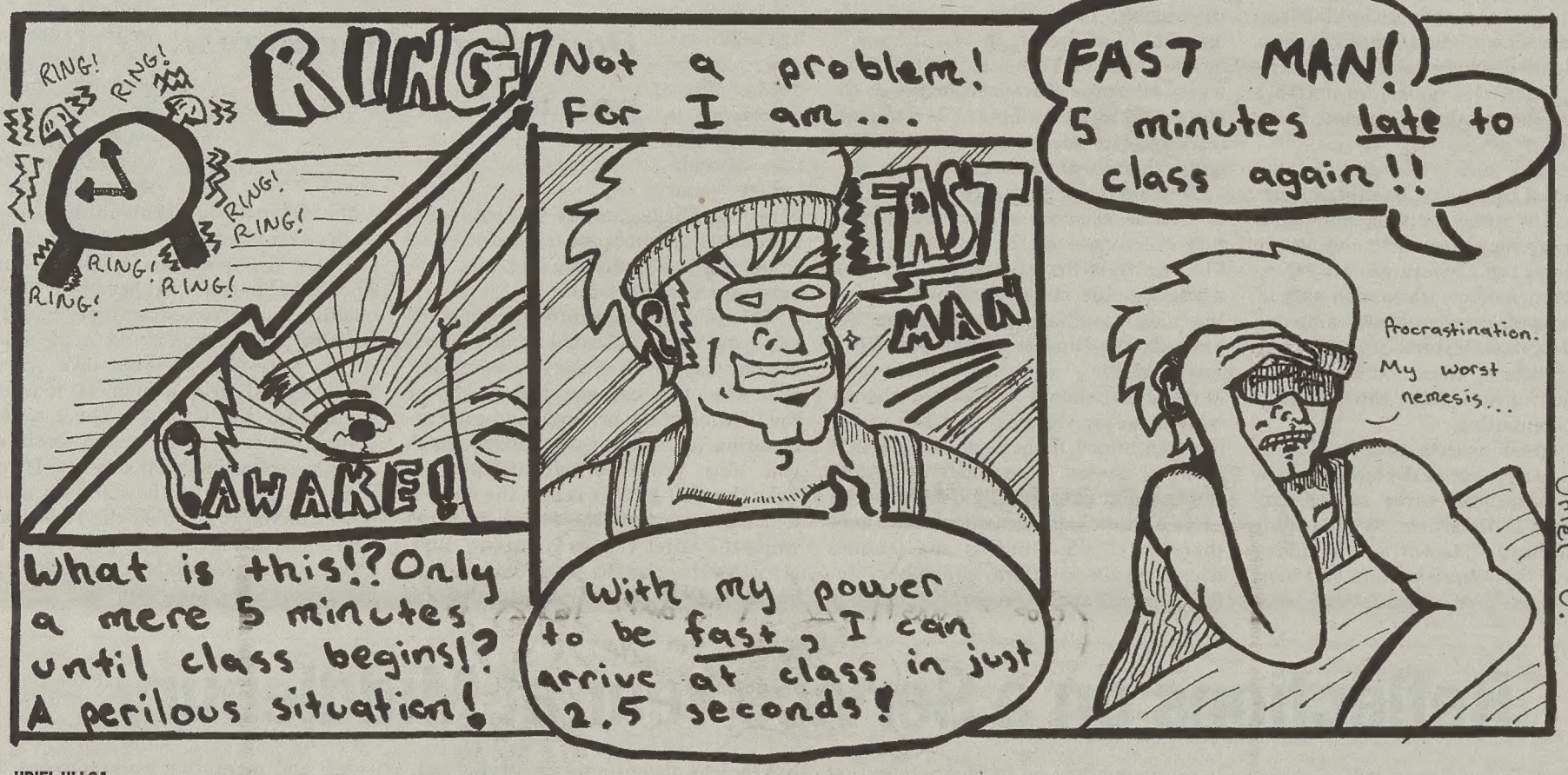
CARTOONS

The Middlebury Campus

College Cats: Senior Year by Emily Cox go/comicsbyemily

Great. 45 minutes with my poster. This'll be quick.
You! With the poster!
Ah! Yes?
Why is there a DOG BUTT here?
Ah, well, it pertains-
Don't you know the history of dog
This won't be quick, huh?

EMILY COX

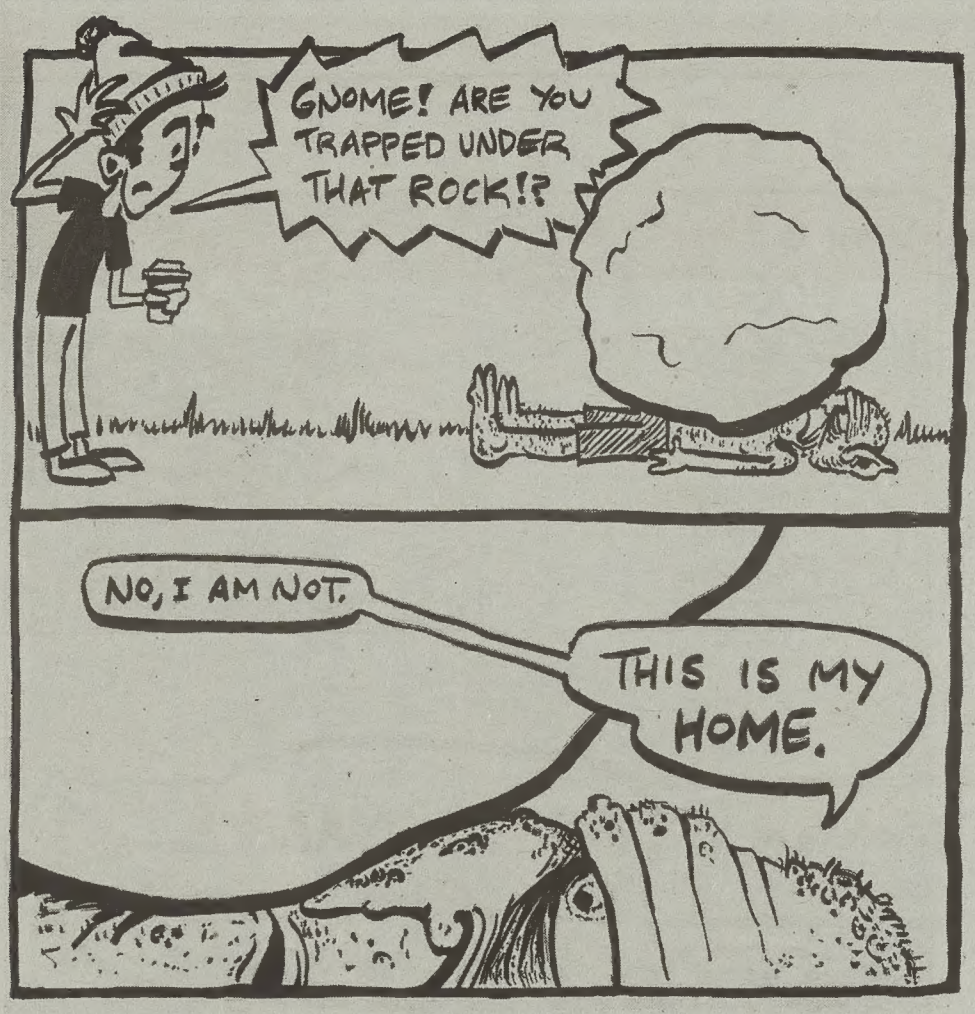


URIEL ULLOA

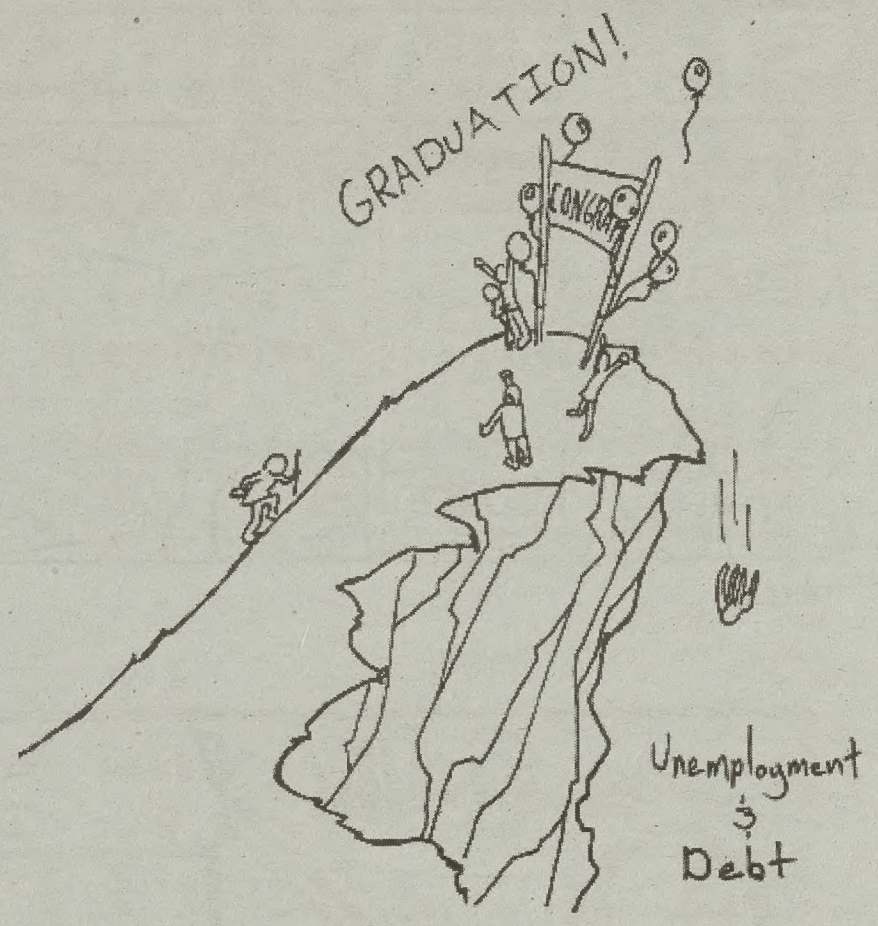
It's... "SZN" SZN!!!

(THE SZN EVERYONE SAYS SZN)

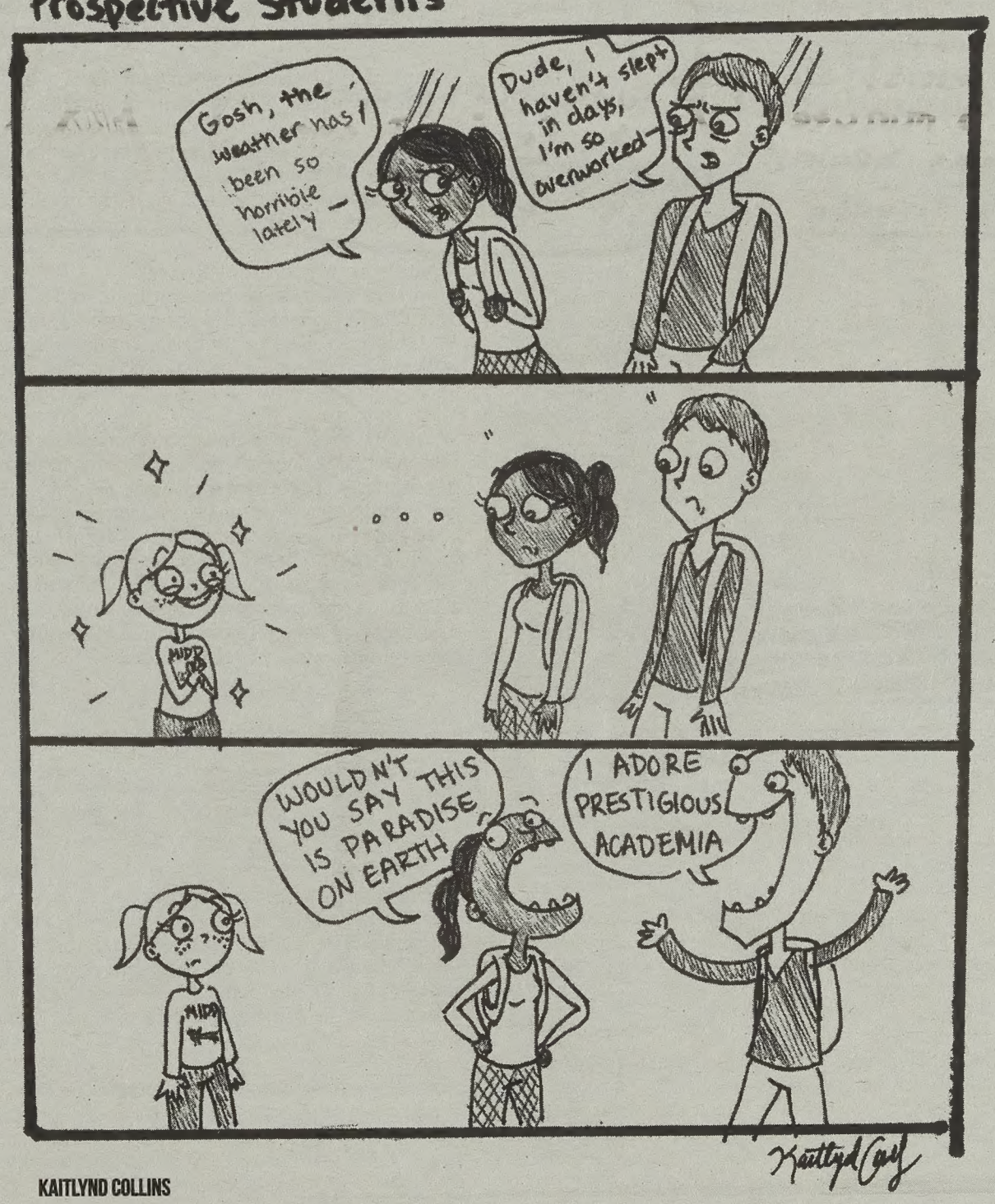
MILLIE VON PLATEN



NOLAN ELLSWORTH



WIN HOMER


Prospective Students
Gosh, the weather has been so horrible lately
Dude, I haven't slept in days, I'm so overworked
WOULDN'T YOU SAY THIS IS PARADISE ON EARTH
I ADORE PRESTIGIOUS ACADEMIA
Kaitlynd Collins

KAITLYND COLLINS

Staff Appreciation Day

JoEllen Felkl
Retail Merchandising Coordinator

What does your job entail?
I'm in charge of the clothing and giftware lines as well as online purchases. Maintaining the clothing and giftware entails checking in new items arriving daily, getting them out onto the sales floor and displaying the items to draw interest into the store. The online orders are fun as I feel like a personal shopper for so many. I get to shop and not spend any money – It's great!

What is the best/worst part of your job?
The best part is the students and the relationships you develop over the four years. We love when the students whom have graduated come running into the store with open arms to visit and tell us all about their new adventures. The worst part is when the students leave campus during breaks—it makes for very quiet days in the store.

What's your best on-the-job story?
I remember one particular parent having a very difficult time making the break from her only child during drop off in the fall. She came into the store on several occasions and talked about having to head back to California. She was so sad and broke down crying in my arms. I reassured her that we are all "Moms" in the store and we watch out for all the kids. Her son would be just fine. The son came back into the store a few weeks later and mentioned he had already joined the volunteer fire department, he loved it here and said that his Mom was doing great and had just adopted a puppy to fill the void. Puppies make everything better.

What's the most memorable interaction you've had with a student?
I really can't narrow it down to just one student. My favorite interaction is every year we do a photo shoot of the clothing we have in the store to use on our website. The students I choose for the photo shoot are students that come into the store and have great outgoing personalities and leave a lasting impression on me. Each and every one of the students have been a complete pleasure and so much fun to work with. They come into the photo shoot willing to do whatever asked and generally leave the photo shoot with a new friend or two!!

Liz Torrey
Custodian

What does your job entail?
I try to make the buildings look nice for the students and the faculty. Right now I do Axinn, well I do two floors of Axinn. I do the bathrooms, I dust, I mop, I use the rider before 7 a.m. a couple days a week, just to make it look nice. Otherwise, I kind of spot mop during the day. We wash the windows, the walls. I do set ups, make it pretty and nice for everybody.

What is the best/worst part of your job?
I think interacting with the students and faculty. I enjoy just making things look nice. If it's my building I like to keep it looking good. So you'll see me dusting around, hopefully getting everything. [The worst part of my job is] washing the windows. It's hard to get all the spots and I'm not tall enough to do the outside. I tried getting up in the machine [to wash the top] but it kind of wiggled and I'm not too thrilled with heights.

What's your best on-the-job story?
I think finding kids sleeping in the buildings. There was one time I found one underneath the sink at the library, because sometimes I clean the library, too. And they were sleeping underneath the sink. And I didn't know that when I walked in, and usually it's dark and you just open the door and the light comes on. And so I screamed, and it scared her too.

What's the most memorable interaction you've had with a student?
I think when you get friendly with them, at least until they graduate. And sometimes you get them on Facebook with you, which is kind of nice. You get to build up a relationship and you get close. If you're cleaning houses you have a couple people that know you by first name and you kind of bond. I hate to see them go. There's too many to pick one. I know during summer school sometimes you get one or two...it's hard and they burst into tears and leave the class. [One time] we went in and consoled [a girl] and made her feel better. And she went back into class with a little smile. I think sometimes you can be, not a mother, but a maternal figure.

Tammy Iffland
Commons Chef of Proctor Dining

What does your job entail?
My Job entails overseeing the entire operation of proctor dining alongside of my co-manager Dawn Boise. She manages the front of the house and I manage the back of the house. Together we accomplish much in a day's time. No operation can function with just one manager.

What is the best/worst part of your job?
The best part of my job is the people I work with and for. Middlebury College has been very good to me and my family. I also love what I do and what I get to be involved with. Making the dining experience the best it can be for so many students. It is rewarding for sure. The worst part of my job is the fact there is never enough hours in a day. With so many people working together there is always a need or a problem to be solved. Sometimes food isn't here on time or folks are calling in sick or a function time changes but all in all it is the little things that can throw your whole day off.

What's your best on-the-job story?
I have several but the one that sticks with me is the time when I was still the Presidents House Chef. I had a Spring Symposium Luncheon to serve and I had prepared all of its components at F.I.C. to be delivered at the appointed time. I rode down with the driver as I always did. We opened the back of the truck, got all of the hard goods and food on to the lift gate and then the worst happened. The food cart slipped out of the drivers hands and did a face plant onto the pavement. My entire lunch was in that cart. We lifted the cart opened the door and luckily nothing was beyond repair. However I did chase bottled water down the driveway in clear view of the President's wife. That was a day to remember for sure.

What's the most memorable interaction you've had with a student?
Well I must say the best interaction with a student or students is when I worked over at Atwater . We had several Student workers and I was privileged to get to know them and find out about their lives and where they came from and why they came to Middlebury. I also love getting to interact with students over here at Proctor as those who have dining issues or request have come to visit me in my office and we are able to talk about them and their lives.

Reporting by Sarah Asch, Features editor
Design by Emma Hatheway, Graphics editor

In honor of Staff Appreciation Day, we at the *Campus* wanted to get to know a few staff members here on campus and ask about the work they do everyday. It takes an enormous and dedicated staff to keep our college running. They clean our dorms and academic buildings. They cook and serve our food. They clear paths in the snow and landscape in the spring. We wanted to thank our wonderful college staff for all their hard work and provide a glimpse of the different kinds of jobs they do on campus.

Doug Connelly
Director of Outdoor Programs and Club Sports

What does your job entail?
I organize outdoor adventures for the Middlebury Community, helping people to go outside and explore. These vary from weekend excursions into the Green Mountains, Break Trips to Grand Teton National Park (Feb Break) Joshua Tree National Park (Spring Break) or White Mountain National Forest (Fall Break), and of course our MiddView Trips for new student orientation. I also oversee the Climbing Wall, Midd Bike Shop, the Mountain Club and twelve Club Sports.

What is the best/worst part of your job?
The best part of my job is exploring mountains with excited students who learn new skills and develop the confidence to take their own adventures. Worst part is that outdoor programs are similar to any other type of programs on a college campus . . . that is, they require administrative planning and organization. I'm glad that a lot of my work happens outside, but the truth is that most of it happens inside the office. This can be a little challenging for someone who has spent years working in the mountains and avoiding offices.

What's your best on-the-job story?
I'm not a great storyteller, but someone should tell the story of our Feb Break ski trip to Jackson Hole, where winter conditions arrived that had not been seen in decades. The trip began during a steady week of snowfall that brought an additional three feet of snow to an already-huge snowpack. Our cabins in GTNP soon felt cutoff from the world, as the Park Service could not keep the roads clear. We were still able to ski from our porches into the adjacent national forest. And we had plenty of food. Then a brief rain event and high winds tore down miles of power lines to the Jackson Hole Mountain Resort, forcing a multi-day closing and evacuation of the Village. That actually didn't affect us much, since we were already snowbound across the valley. The rain de-stabilized the snowpack so that avalanches swept surrounding slopes, closing two of the three roads into Jackson Hole for days. As road crews cleared debris piles, we loaded the vehicles and made an early exit during the few hours that we could. We reached Utah a day before our flight and were able to enjoy one final day of fun powder skiing.

What's the most memorable interaction you've had with a student?
I began work in the summer before my first MiddView when the students were not yet on campus. So, like any educator, I was eager to meet my students, my trip leaders. Finally they arrived and I was able to see first-hand what the crew of Middlebury Trip Leaders would be like. This occurred, most memorably, during the MiddView Prep Rally in our hockey arena, when the ~120 Trip Leaders paraded in to meet their MiddView students. They made a raucous! Dressed in tiger stripes, tutus, banana costumes and in roller-skates . . . they clearly showed their excitement for this place. I'm a big fan of school pride and I wasn't sure if Middlebury students had it. I thought, "Yes! This will be great."

What's your favorite part about Middlebury?
I love that I can walk across campus, looking one way to see the Green Mountains, looking the other way to see the Adirondacks. I love that there is a place for us to ski and row and stoke a woodstove, and hope everyone has a little piece of campus where their world makes sense like that. I enjoy the intelligence and focus of the students, that they take their studies seriously, and then are lined up during gear hours to borrow tents and sleeping bags. Hopefully they take a moment to enjoy the beauty that is around them. I like the way that the climbers support each other at the climbing wall, and I admire the club sport athletes because of their love for their sport. These are the reasons I love the work I do and am happy to be doing it at Middlebury.

A Letter from SGA President Karina Tapo

Dear Staff,

It is thanks to you that Middlebury College is such a beautiful place to live. Everyday we students rush about our day with the next test, paper, or assignment at the forefront of our minds. We forget to see all the little things that are provided for us here at Middlebury that allow us to focus on our academics. We never have to worry about cooking food, cleaning our bathrooms, buying toilet paper, or washing dishes. (to name a few of the realities we will have to face upon graduation), and we have you all to thank.

This year the Student Government Association has named April 20th, 2017 as the inaugural Staff Appreciation Day. While we can never possibly thank you enough for all the amazing things you do on campus, we would like to do what little we can to express our gratitude for you. In our busy lives we sometimes forget to thank those who help us the most. While we should appreciate our staff every day, on this day we would like to specially honor you all.

While we hope this day will both develop over time with new ways of expressing our gratitude, this year we have spent months establishing a framework for what this day will be. Around campus students will sign posters expressing thanks. In addition, students filmed messages of appreciation for your help in their lives. And lastly, there will also be a dinner this evening in which students will provide you with a meal and service for a change.

You have honestly made our time here at Middlebury incredibly special and touched all of our lives in incredibly positive ways. From the bottoms of our hearts- thank you!

Tim Parsons
Landscape Horticulturist

What does your job entail?
That means I'm the campus arborist, planning and managing the tree care on campus, as well as other parts of the landscape, such as flower beds, shrub plantings, lawns, etc.

What is the best/worst part of your job?
The best part of my job is working with students on class work, labs, and special projects. The worst part would be snow removal—I much prefer to play in the snow than move it around.

What's your best on-the-job story?
Many stories, maybe one of the funniest ones would be waking up two students underneath a giant spruce tree early in the morning. It was the morning of commencement, Bill Clinton was the speaker, and the spruce was out in the Main Quad about 100 feet from the tent. Figured I'd better wake them before the Secret Service did. It quickly got embarrassing, as they were only wearing the sleeping bag.

What's the most memorable interaction you've had with a student?
To write my most memorable experience with a student means I have to apologize to all the other students I've worked and played with, because all of them have been great. I'll go with one of the first ones, working with Emily May '10 to install a pollinator garden outside of the East side of BiHall (it's still there). She's a pollinator conservation specialist now.

What's your favorite part about Middlebury?
My favorite part of Middlebury are the students. Teaching a class, or working with them on committees reminds me how this is an elite school—the intelligence, drive and determination of everyone is humbling, and I feel like I need to up my game just to keep up.

Student Explores Latinx Diversity on Campus

By Courtenay Roche
Contributing Writer

The Latinx Project (www.thelatinxproject.com), an interactive website created by Robert Zarate-Morales '17, was recently launched as a part of the Middlebury Fellowship for Thought Leadership.

The website aims to explore the diversity of Latinx experiences on campus, and features writing and art pieces submitted by members of the Middlebury College community.

The fellowship was sent out in the fall as an opportunity for juniors and seniors to delve into conversations that were often uncomfortable and taboo — things like diversity, inclusivity, identity, and privilege — and to use those to inspire change on campus.

The fellowship is "a semester-long experience where juniors and seniors convene three times over the course of the year to develop the skills to emerge as a thought leader and public voice," according to Dr. Dena Simmons '05, the director of education at the Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence and the leader of the fellowship.

Thought leadership is about "being conscientious about the way you lead, and not just taking the reigns but also trying to use the voices of many to guide the direction in which you go," Zarate-Morales said.

After the semester is over, the fellows culminate their experience in a final project. The 15 fellows have chosen to present through a diverse array of mediums, such as speeches, op-eds and performances.

As his final project, Zarate-Morales launched the Latinx Project website to explore the topics he studied throughout the fellowship through the lens of Latinx voices on campus.

Zarate-Morales got the idea of a website because Latinx voices are historically underrepresented in the digital world, and the Latinx Project is a platform he hopes Latinx students will feel comfortable using to share their experiences.

"I thought that creating a virtual platform would allow these voices to be heard a little more, and be more visible in the digital world," Zarate-Morales said. "The fellowship explored many different ways the fellows could make their voices and experiences heard, and the Internet is, especially today, a major factor in social visibility."

Simmons agreed on the importance of focusing on social media platforms.

"Social media platforms are important today because, in many ways, it is how many communicate, stay in touch and learn what is happening in the world," she said. "We saw from the Black Lives Matter movement, Arab Spring and the protest against the Dakota Access Pipeline the power of social media. Yes, there are ways these platforms could be abused, but they can also do good — and we will focus on that!"

The website launched on April 15, Easter Sunday, in conjunction with the final day of the holy week that many Spanish-speaking countries celebrate. Zarate-Morales chose this date, which he believed would allow Latinx students of many different backgrounds to feel included.

For Zarate-Morales, inclusivity was a major goal throughout the process.

"I want [the website] to be used to connect Latinx and Hispanic voices within the Middlebury community, and outside Middlebury," he said. "It's also for people who don't identify with that social group to learn more about it. It's really for everyone"

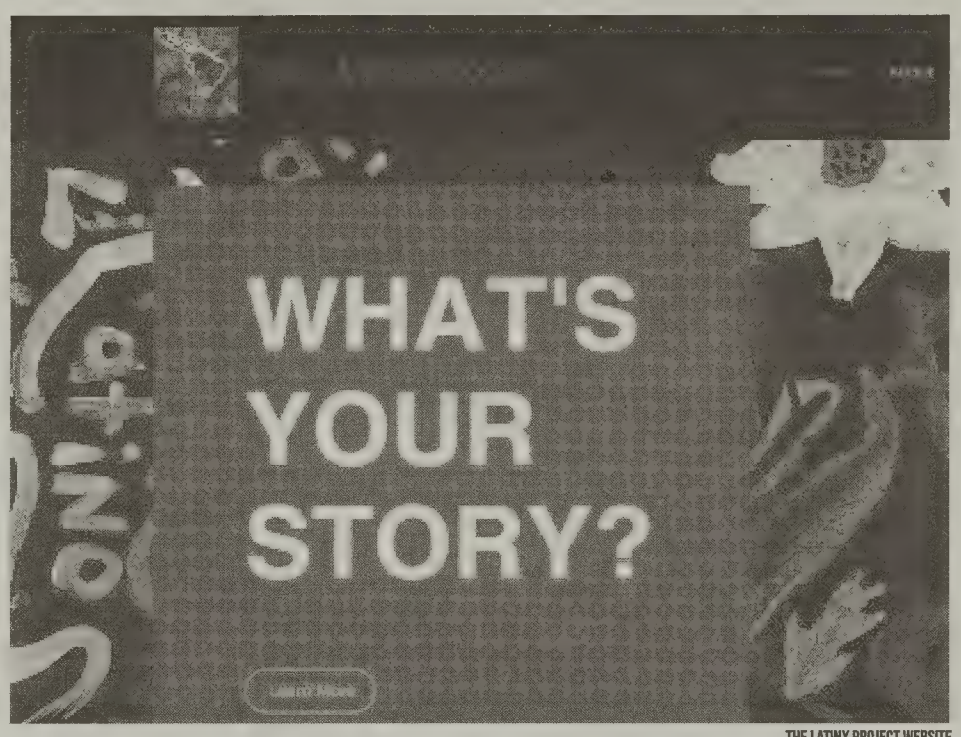
Zarate-Morales plans on updating his website regularly with new articles and images from campus contributors, and resources like names of books and movies for people to learn more about Latinx and Hispanic culture both at the College and in the world at large.

One entry featured right now, written by Ricardo Rosales-Mesta '19, tells the story of a young Colombian boy, Moctezuma, making the difficult journey to the U.S. alone to live with his aunt.

Zarate-Morales said that he encourages people to read and try to relate to, or challenge, these stories.

"It's all about connection, and engagement," he said.

Connection and engagement with challenging topics is a major goal of the fellowship as a whole. Simmons described how the projects can help the campus broach sometimes uncomfortable topics.



THE LATINX PROJECT WEBSITE
Robert Zarate-Morales's website aims to give a new digital space for Latinx expression.

"Oftentimes, we end up living in the culture of nice instead of the culture of authenticity," she said. "When we live in the space of just being nice, we fear pushing others to grow or to question problematic actions and statements because we fear unsettling the niceness. I think the projects have the potential to push people to the space of authentic and empathetic expression, conversations and actions."

Such an idea comes at a pertinent time on campus.

"After the Charles Murray event, so many of my fellows wanted to act right away to combat the single narrative of the event and the us/them dichotomy that the media — on and off campus — perpetuated," Simmons said. "The fellowship, in many ways, created space for students not only to discuss power and privilege and the problematic and assaultive events on campus and beyond, but also to act to combat them."

Simmons believes Zarate-Morales' website addresses the fellowship's goals of fostering inclusivity and diversity by giving voice to often silenced groups on campus.

"[Zarate-Morales]'s website aims to provide a space and platform for the Latinx community to share their lives and experiences and to connect with each other," Simmons said. "There is power in sharing out stories; stories connect and humanize us, and this website has that potential."

The fellowship may be coming to a close, but Simmons hopes the fellows will carry their projects beyond the scope of the fellowship and continue to affect change on and off campus.

"[Zarate-Morales]'s website will first start with the voices of other Latinx students on campus but his hope is for it to live beyond Middlebury — and beyond the fellowship," Simmons said. "His website amplifies voices that are often silenced and reduced to stereotypical depictions. It gives power to people by having them tell their own stories, disrupting the many single narratives that exist about groups of people."

Zarate-Morales hopes the Middlebury community will use www.thelatinxproject.com to learn about the diverse array of Latinx experiences on campus, and encourages anybody to share their own stories.

Discussing Familial Roots and a Journey of Discovery

By Qian (Audrey) Li
Staff Writer

Brooke Williams has been a freelance journalist for over thirty years, advocating for the wilderness and exploring places where the untamed outer wilderness and "internal" wilderness meet. On April 11, with reference to his new book, "Open Midnight: Where Wilderness and Ancestors Meet," Williams offered his insights on discovering our role in evolution in a talk at the College.

"A memoir of wilderness, metaphysical transformation, ancestral immigration and Charles Darwin, 'Open Midnight' beautifully evokes the feeling of being solitary in the wild, at home in the deepest sense, in the presence of the sublime," writes the *Trinity University Press*.

While researching the story of William Williams, his oldest known ancestor from England, Williams discovered that his ancestor lived at the same time as Charles Darwin, who also resided in Shrewsbury, England. This discovery triggered Williams to imagine the encounter between his ancestor and Darwin.

"My book has some imagination in it, but it is all non-fiction," Williams said. "Like I say in the book, I am not sure that all of this stuff happened but I am not sure that they did not. Later I learned, Carl Jung said most everything you can imagine has roots in your unconscious. So that means what you imagine is true too, in a certain way, isn't it?"

While William Williams is part of his personal family history, his imagined encounter with Darwin and Darwin's theory of natural selection extended the search for his personal history back to the earliest moments when life first began. Williams went to England to learn more about his ancestor's life and had an epiphany once he got there.

"I have gone thousands of miles to visit the place where my ancestors were born only to realize that just because my genealogy showed my earliest ancestor showing up there in the late 1700s, they did not just fall out of the sky," Williams said. "My ancestors had ancestors who had ancestors who had ancestors going back to those first cells coming alive in that steamy swamp."

"For the first time, I saw my family tree as a small branch connected to the entire massive tree of life ... We are all related if we are willing to look back far enough," he continued.

Fiona McCarey '19, a film major, found that the talk resonated with what she has been doing in her environmental literature course this semester.

"We have been working a lot on connecting nature to larger ideas, more philosophical observations rather than the physical here and now," McCarey said. "And I think Williams' talk really spoke to that aspect when he was describing both physical spaces of red rocks in Utah and in Shrewsbury, but thinking in larger concepts of who was actually here, why were they here and where they were travelling to."

The relationship between imagination and fiction that Williams talked about also helped McCarey with her recent confusion about these two seemingly contrasting concepts and inspired her to create a story that derives from her experience.

"I recently went to Silver Lake where I found weird burnt papers. I started to think that I could totally come up with this really cool story but that is not necessarily non-fiction and I do not know if I could write it for my environmental class," McCarey said. "But now I think I will try to tackle that for my next paper."

> ***"For the first time, I saw my family tree as a small branch connected to the entire massive tree of life... We are all related if we are willing to look back far enough."***
>
> **BROOKE WILLIAMS**
> FREELANCE JOURNALIST

Speaking of her experience at the talk, McCarey relates Williams' search for his ancestor's stories to her own ancestors from Ireland which her father has discovered by doing researches at ancestry.com. As McCarey is planning to go study abroad in Ireland, she hopes to take Williams's initiative and find out more about her ancestors while there.

"You forget where you necessarily come from because most of my family lives in America so I do not think about the before when you get here. So my take away is to think my family in a larger context of the world and how we are all interconnected," McCarey said.

Leo McElroy '18, a junior who studies physics and computer science, learned about the talk from the Calendar of Events and was intrigued by Williams's experiences.

"I think that broadening one sense of ancestry to include a large portion of the natural world, or specifically the living world, was striking to me," McElroy said. "I only did some basic genealogy stuff like drawing a family tree for four or five generations back when I was younger. I have not had the sense of guided by ancestors two hundred years back the way the speaker described."

By weaving two parallel stories about the inner and outer wildernesses, Williams compares the place he loves to the place he actually comes from. Sharing his journey of discovering about his ancestors, Williams invited the audience to consider our entire being from both inside and outside, challenging our concepts of reality, spirituality and the wild.

Eleven MiddChallenge Proposals Given Funding

By Ellie Anderson
Contributing Writer

On Saturday, April 15, eleven student project proposals were awarded summer funding from MiddChallenge. The competition was divided into four categories: Social Entrepreneurship; Education, Outreach and Policy; Arts; and Business. A total of sixteen project proposals were selected to pitch their ideas to a panel of judges. Two to three projects in each category were chosen to win.

MiddChallenge, formerly called Stonehenge, is a program that developed out of the Center for Creativity, Innovation and Social Entrepreneurship (CCISE) in 2011. CCISE, also know as the "Innovation Hub," advertises on their webpage that the grant provides students with funding so they can "explore and expand their creative ideas."

All current students are encouraged to apply each year before the deadline in mid-March. This year, about 25 to 30 applications were sent in, and the top four proposals in each category were chosen to give 10-minute presentations to a panel of judges.

CCISE interns Lena Jacobs '17.5 and Jessie Klinck '17.5 helped to organize this year's MiddChallenge competition. They believe that the MiddChallenge grant program was an important addition to the other funding and entrepreneurship opportunities offered by CCISE because it allows for close guidance through the process.

> ***"This is a space for beginner-level projects to learn what it's like to present in front of a crowd. We coach them throughout the month that they know they've become a finalist."***
>
> **LENA JACOBS '17.5**
> **INTERN AT CCISE**

"This is a space for beginner-level projects to learn what it's like to present in front of a crowd," Jacobs said. "We coach them throughout the month that they know they've become a finalist."

MiddChallenge is designed to provide the same opportunities for both seasoned presenters and entrepreneurs as well as students with brand new ideas.

"We like to encourage a whole plethora of people to apply," Klinck said.

The judges' panels were comprised of alumni, community members and faculty. Following the four presentations, each category's panel of judges provided each proposal with specific feedback and announced the winners. Each winner can be awarded up to $3,000, and the amount they received was based on their budget proposal.

In the Social Entrepreneurship category, funding was awarded to Belle by Bella, MiddPool and Scholar Hunt.

Isabella Epstein '20 came up with "Belle by Bella" after traveling to Colombia and learning about the art of handmade jewelry. Her goal is "to empower artisans, indigenous and impoverished people by giving them access to a larger market."

MiddPool Ride Sharing was pitched by Amy Jo Weaver '18.5 and Nosagie Asaolu '18, who hope to create a ride sharing website for easy use "to, from, and around Middlebury Campus."

Ian Sexton '19 and friend Derick Vigne came up with Scholar Hunt, a scholarship app that would "bring together scholarship providers and students onto one, unified platform."

In the Education, Outreach and Policy category, funding was awarded to the projects STEAM Girls and "The Desire to See in the Anthropocene."

STEAM Girls is a free two-week long summer camp that Computer Science majors Kristin Richards '17 and Joy Wood '17 launched last year after realizing how few female students were pursuing their major or working in the greater fields of STEM and computer science.

Richards and Wood designed the camp for elementary and middle school girls interested in science and math, and taught within it three creativity-based classes tailored for such age groups. The classes involved learning about robotics through Lego Mindstorms, creating art designs on the computer through the processes of programming and devising model circuits by sewing threads together.

Joey Hernandez '19 joined Richards and Wood to present STEAM Girls and get awarded the MiddChallenge grant money for the second year in a row.

Nicole Cheng '17.5's project, "The Desire to See in the Anthropocene," proposed the creation of an audio installation on Middlebury's campus that would emit the sounds of the forest and other parts of nature. An environmental studies major, Cheng hopes that this will bring attention to global issues such as deforestation and provide a better understanding of its effects on natural and human communities.

In her presentation, Cheng noted that she hopes her installation will show "how that culture change can incite policy change as well."

She also wants this sculpture project to further emphasize the significance of art in STEM, two fields that she believes are not integrated enough.

In the Arts category, the three winning projects were Bangkok Persona, The Basement and Favor It.

Bangkok Persona was proposed by Smithi Skunnawat '18.5, who plans to create an online documentary series about the Thai and non-Thai cultures that exist within Bangkok.

Danilo Herrera, Brianna Garrett '19, Devin McGrath-Conwell '18.5, Iram Asghar '18 and Maxwell Scott Leslie '18 came up with The Basement, which will be a ten-episode web series "that celebrates differences and fictionalizes controversies we see in college settings."

Coumba Winfield '17 pitched Favor It, an app that would connect students and allow them to complete paid favors or tasks for each other.

In the Business category, winning project proposals included Red Ink, SmartWire and Share to Wear.

Red Ink is a website devised by Connor Forrest '17.5 and Craig Calhoun '18.5 that gives new writers the chance to see early drafts of published fictional works alongside final drafts. Forrest described in the pitch that their goal is to "demystify the process" of creative writing.

Rachael Salerno '18, Linley Shaw '17, Lena Jacobs '17.5, Michelle Yang '17.5, Greta Hulleberg '19 and Lily Taub '17 developed the idea for Share to Wear, an on-campus clothing rental business. The creators describe it as "one affordable, accessible, and fashionable closet."

SmartWire was proposed by Noah Klammer '17, whose objective "is to change how consumers fundamentally interact with the electric grid."

MiddChallenge proposals that were not selected to present at the competition this past weekend still have the chance to access funding through both CCISE and the Center for Careers and Internships (CCI). CCISE offers a variety of funding and entrepreneurship opportunities in addition to MiddChallenge.

MiddStart is a micro-philanthropy site that CCISE also launched in 2011 and gives alumni and friends the chance to donate to students' projects, as well as follow their progress. CCISE's New Millennium Fund supports students wishing to intern at Vermont-based start ups or non-profits, and the Old Stone Mill is a student-run space in town that offers room and small funding opportunities for students to work on non-academic and self-designed projects.

In addition to grant money for unpaid summer internships, the CCI offers funding for self-designed and self-directed summer projects, which can be applied for in April each year.

Journalist Discusses the History of Making Sake

By Miguel Espinosa
Contributing Writer

Last Thursday, journalist Nancy Matsumoto visited the College to lecture about sake, how it's produced and its role within Japanese culture. The lecture, hosted by the Japanese club and MiddUncorked, took place at the Axinn Center. A sake pairings dinner at Proctor Hall occurred afterward.

Based in Toronto, Canada, Nancy Matsumoto is a freelance writer and editor whose work specializes in sustainable agriculture, food, sake, arts and culture. According to Matsumoto's biography at nancymatsumoto.com, her writings have been shared in reputable publications such as *Time*, *Newsweek*, *Health*, *People*, *The Los Angeles Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Atlantic* and *The New York Times*.

She also co-authored the book, "The Parent's Guide to Eating Disorders: Supporting Self-Esteem, Healthy Eating and Positive Body Image at Home". The book is a recipient of a National Parenting Publication award, and is the "the definitive encyclopedia for parents who are concerned about their child's weight eating," according to an expert in the field.

Matsumoto's lecture started by asking the question, "What is sake?" The word "sake", in Japanese, translates to alcohol.

Sake, although having a range of aromas and sharing the same sweetness and dryness range of wine, is more closely related to beer. Like that for beer, the creation of sake involves transforming grains into sugars, and then converting the sugars into alcohol using yeast. Sake, unlike wine, derives sugar from rice grains rather than fruit. Facilitating such a process requires the skills of a master brewer, or toji.

JAPANESE CLUB

Students taste different types of sake while listening to Nancy Matsumoto discuss the history, cultural significance and brewing process of the popular Japanese drink.

Matsumoto then guided the audience through the history of sake. Sake, a culturally significant drink in Japan, is at least 2,000 years old. The sake most people are familiar with today dates back to 1,000 years ago. Some historians suggest that its first creators were women, and that it was reserved only for gods, shrines and temples. In fact, traditionally, brewing sake passed down multiple generations as a family business. Nowadays, sake still plays an integral role in Japanese contemporary life and culture.

The discussion returned again to the process of creating sake, albeit at greater detail. According to Matsumoto, the elements that comprise sake are surprisingly simple, since it requires only a few ingredients: water, rice and yeast. The environment for brewing must be strictly controlled, however.

After the rice is cooled and fanned, it is then taken to a koji-muro , a warm, cedar-lined room that is favorable for producing a certain kind of mold. This mold is cultivated to grow on rice for between 48 to 72 hours; the resulting product, mold-inoculated steamed rice, is called koji.

The koji is transferred to a small tank where water, rice and yeast are added. This portion of the sake brewing process aims at creating a yeast starter, known as shubo or moto.

The yeast affects the aroma and flavor of the sake. Shubo temperature is strictly controlled, and the environment surrounding the shubo must be kept clean. After two weeks, the yeast starter eventually is transferred to a larger tank where three more rounds of rice, water and yeast are added. The larger tank is left to ferment for three to five weeks, and the sake is pressed and filtered afterwards. The sake is then aged for about six months, and is diluted with water before bottling, reducing the alcohol level from 20 percent to about 15 percent.

Matsumoto then presented the different categories of sake, which are dependent upon rice milling percentage. For example, daiginjo, which is milled to 50 percent or less, is known to be light, complex and fragrant. Ginjo is classified for milling rates less than 60 percent, honjozo or 70 percent or less and fustu-shu for anything without a minimum.

Matsumoto also went on to discuss sake pairing, and how a sake's subtle taste makes the drink very food-friendly. Some may want to drink sake with foods that have tastes of similar or contrasting quality.

Matsumoto dove into stories from the brewing industry, and how recent global events have affected large sake manufacturers. We heard about female brewers, and how they have contributed to the experimentation and innovation of sake creation. We also learned about the "ginjo" movement of the 70s, and how the number of brewers have declined in the industry.

Learning about and understanding sake is helpful in constructing one's worldview of Japanese culture, whether it be contemporary or historical.

"[Sake] has a long history," said Michiko Yoshino '17, Japanese Club president. "Drinking culture plays a big part in school and work culture, having parties to celebrate the end of a long project or a way to treat clients. Sake is one of those ways people use to accommodate social situations. As one of Japan's national drinks, it is recognized globally and Japan prides itself on making fantastic sake."

Sake has provided enjoyment and leisure for the Japanese people, past and present. Since it is recognized internationally, people across the world have shared in sake's pleasure; perhaps by studying it, others will come to greater appreciation of Japanese culture.

Ace Up Your Sleeve

By Sex Panther

You may have heard that sexuality is a spectrum. But certainly not from this column, which typically focuses on the hetero, sex-crazed side of things. This week let's delve into what it means to be at the other end of the spectrum — or what it means to be asexual. (And there's a lot more going on here than we can cover in one column!)

Asexuality is exactly what it sounds like: no sexual attraction to other people. If that sounds odd to you, that might be because society tends to view people not wanting sex as bizarre or wrong. However, asexuality is a perfectly normal sexual orientation.

There's a whole range of orientations that are included in the asexuality spectrum, often referred to as the ace spectrum (a spectrum within a spectrum, I know). And on the complete opposite end are the people who wanna bang all the time — the allosexual peeps. Just as many people do not experience exclusively homosexual or heterosexual attraction, some people identify as fully asexual and others, like myself, consider themselves demisexual or gray-ace.

Although everyone experiences demisexuality differently, my experience has been that I don't feel sexual attraction until I have a strong emotional connection with the person I am with. Essentially, I cannot be aroused by just anyone. Whereas my boyfriend and I have sex, I have zero desire to hook up with a rando. I simply do not feel sexual attraction toward people I do not know. Back in my first year at Middlebury, this would worry me. I felt a lot of pressure to participate in hookup culture. When I first sat in on an ace meeting at a queer conference my sophomore year, I learned about demisexuality and it reaffirmed how I felt; I now had a concrete reason I did not have to participate in a culture that didn't work for me. When I met my current boyfriend, a thoroughly allosexual human, we openly discussed and negotiated what sex I found sexy and what sex I did not.

If you're not necessarily looking for partnered sex, there are other ways your sexuality might express itself. Some asexual humans don't have sex at all, others have it only with themselves. Others find sexual satisfaction in fantasy or kink that does not require a partner. And sometimes people who identify as asexual do have sex, perhaps to find a compromise between their partner's sexuality and their own. While there is nothing wrong with navigating and reconciling the complexities of two people's sexual orientations, sexual partners should not expect sex from their asexual partners. Consent is especially tricky when one person does not experience sexual attraction.

One of my favorite quotations about asexuality comes from David Jay, an asexual activist and the founder of asexuality.org (a great resource for anyone who wants to learn more about what asexuality is or wants to connect with the asexual community). "When we say that we were intimate with someone last night, why does that have to mean we had sex?" he asked. There are many ways to be intimate with people — emotionally, sexually, platonically, physically, musically (it happens), etc. They are all equally valid and different and beautiful.

"The lesson here is that you should engage in whatever kind of intimacy you enjoy, and then make sure you are not imposing your own desires on others."

The lesson here is that you should engage in whatever kind of intimacy you enjoy, and then make sure you are not imposing your own desires on others. Do not let sex positivity become an expectation of sex. I mean, sex can be great. We should all be liberated people who engage in all the safe, consensual sexual acts that we want. Just remember that some humans won't enjoy the same sexual things as you, or may not enjoy sex at all.

Always, always talk intentionally with someone about what you both find appealing and would be willing to do. It is always possible to redefine sex as whatever we find sexy — or asexy.

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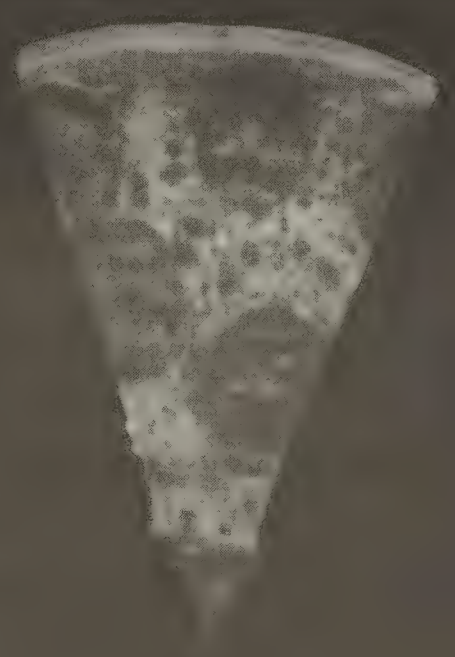

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'Spelling Bee' Inspires Laughs and Tears

By Lior Selve
Contributing Writer

We have all been part of our own Putnam County Spelling Bee, though we may not have realized it until the weekend of April 13-15. We may not have spelled the words or participated in the mass hilarity of the show itself, but we certainly connected with the awkward, uncomfortable, spastic and ultimately beautiful moments that come with growing up.

"The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee" was put on by the Middlebury College Musical Players (MCMP) and was performed and directed entirely by Middlebury students. Olivia Christie '19 directed, Ronnie Romano '20 directed music, Sam Boudreau '19 stage managed and Alex Williamson '17 directed tech. It ran in the beautiful Town Hall Theatre in the heart of Middlebury. Unlike on-campus venues, Town Hall Theatre seemed to be far more accessible to members outside of the college community, and the audience was composed of a wonderful blend of people old and young.

The diversity of the crowd was also a mark of the power of the play to connect with everyone over the course of its two acts – we all grow up at some point, after all. The first act, which set the scene for the spelling bee and introduced us to the characters, unfolded like chaotic poetry with constant rhyme of humor. Each character revealed their own quirk, and in many scenes, all came together to sing beautiful songs with fluidly disjointed choreography. Much like the beginning of adolescence, the first act showed the characters to be incredibly awkward and passionate and, as many adults may forget, complex.

In fact, actress Emily Cipriani '19.5, who played the adorable Leaf Coneybear, shrewdly noted that "the humor keeps the pace rolling and warms the audience up to the characters, making later, more serious themes more approachable."

For example, the first act had songs like "My Friend the Dictionary," "Pandemonium" and "I'm Not That Smart," which, though humorous, served to highlight some of the more common trials of adulthood.

"Pandemonium," which featured speller Chip Tolentino (Michael Koutelous '20), focused on how life can be incredibly unfair. The cast performed the song twice, and in the reprise, Chip – a favorite to win the bee – spelled his word wrong, becoming the first contestant to get out. Though the song stimulated laughter and the choreography was endearing, for me – and I am sure for other audience members as well – the scene evoked memories of feeling that life could be unfair.

Leaf Coneybear's "I'm Not That Smart" was easily relatable to anyone who has ever felt inadequately smart in comparison with those around them. According to Cipriani, the song was an example of how Leaf "did not believe in theirself."

"My Friend the Dictionary," sung by Olive Ostrovsky (Maria Bobbitt-Chertock '20), was an ode to all the children who have ever felt alone in their lives. It was a sweet song, featuring disconnected rhymes and simple lines. Yet it held within it the power to leave smiles on our mouths and sadness in our eyes.

The show also featured various adult characters, such as Rona Lisa Peretti (Madeline Ciocci '20), Doug Panch (David Fine '17) and comfort counselor Mitch Mahoney (Tim Hansen '18). Though adult, these characters were no less awkward than the spellers and had their own problems. There was also an appearance from Jesus (Amy Conaway '20), who remarked that "gender is a social construct."

When the curtains opened again for the second act, the lines between humor and intelligent reflection blurred to the point of invisibility. Koutelous sang about his "Unfortunate Erection" and we laughed heartily, but our hearts felt for him. What is more awkward than an erection in the very public setting of a spelling bee?

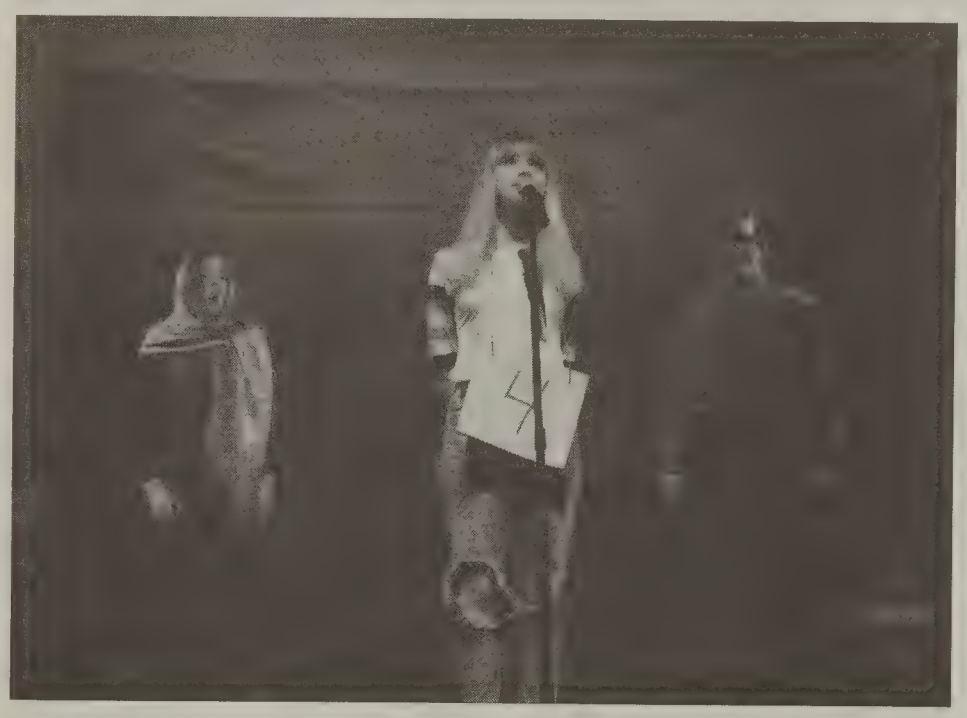
"It's a funny show, but that doesn't mean that these kids don't deal with very real and very deep issues that make them so relatable," said Jess Garner '19.5 who played Logainne SchwarzandGrubiere. "Olive's depression and loneliness, Marcy and Logainne's controlling parents and extreme pressure to succeed, Logainne's anxiety, Chip's veneer of confidence, Leaf's misunderstanding family and ostracization and Barfee's frustrations with being talked down to are all aspects which really help to make a comedy a more layered and resounding show."

When Sabine Poux '20, who played the genius Marcy Park, sang about how she speaks six languages, we saw a smart girl reveal the layers of insecurity and doubts that any hard-working child has thought about at some point: Does everyone think I am boring? Do people think of me as anything more than a smarty-pants?

When Bobbit-Chertock, Miranda Seixas '20, and Tim Hansen '18 combined forces to sing "The I Love You Song," we sat in rapture as the tangled emotions and expectations of family love were simplified into three notes harmonized perfectly into one. No family dynamic is the same, but the song found the right key to express the importance of those dynamics, touching every one of us listening.

MADDY GOODHART

Emily Cipriani '19.5 played the goofy and loveable Leaf Coneybear.



MADDY GOODHART

Miranda Seixas '20, Maria Bobbitt-Chertock '20 and Tim Hansen '18 perform "The I Love You Song."

When Logainne SchwarzandGrubiere had a meltdown because of the constant pressure put upon her by her two fathers (Christian Schmitt '19 and Austin Kenny '19), we remembered the pressure we endure from our parents and life. Hell, I was reminded of the pressures I was going through that day.

However, just like the first act, the emotional scenes were clothed in humor, and for this they were far more enjoyable for us than the scenes we experienced ourselves in years past.

By the end of the play, it was clear that the motley crew of lovable characters had all grown up in a way. Leaf discovered that they were pretty damn smart. William Barfee, played by the hysterical Sean Meagher '20, discovered that he could be his weird self, spell words without his magic foot and find friendship and love with people as quirky as him. Logainne found her own confidence and blossomed outside of her fathers' stern instruction. Marcy realized she could lose if she wanted to, even though she could have easily won. Finally, Olive finally found a friend in Barfee, as well as kindness in the form of Panch, who had been rather mean to the kids throughout the bee.

Within the chaos of "Spelling Bee," the one constant was a smile on the faces of everyone in the audience. Though there were scenes that made us sad, the play's consistent humor, wonderful acting and beautiful songs never once let us get down on the scenes or the lives they portrayed.

I think it was the ability to keep us all in good spirits that made this show as magical as it was. It reminded us of how hard adolescence could be, but it forced us into realizing just how damn beautiful and fun it was too.

Upon interviewing the cast, it seemed that another reason there was such joy in watching the show was that the cast and crew gelled so well.

"What was great about this show was that the cast just clicked, creatively and emotionally," said Bobbitt-Chertock. "Everyone helped foster this welcoming, supportive environment, which is a real gem in theatre – an art form that infamously entails a lot of diva-tantrum-throwing."

"The best thing about this play was the people involved," Ciocci agreed.

Fine added that the dedication of the directors was crucial to the show's success.

"Our cast and crew had no weak links at all, and Olivia and Ronnie did absolutely superb jobs as director and music director," he said. "It was a privilege, and I am very proud of our performances."

The glowing review from the cast illuminated the final, wonderful point to take from "Spelling Bee": no matter who we are we all grow up with others, and it is with their unwavering support and presence that we all can find our way safely into adulthood.

DON'T MISS THIS

Movement Matters: Two Years in Processes

Join Maree ReMalia and her cross-disciplinary collaborators to learn about discoveries made through practices of embodied learning and the scope of activities that have taken place during a two-year residency.

4/20, TUESDAY, 6 P.M., DANCE THEATRE, MCA

Parker Merrill Speech

In a Middlebury College tradition that started in 1825, student finalists compete for a top prize of $500. And speakers square off in a round of PowerPoint Roulette; watch as mixed doubles pairs — one professor, one student — deliver impromptu presentations incorporating seven slides they've never seen before.

4/20, THURSDAY, 7:30 P.M., ROBISON HALL, MCA

The Sound Investment Jazz Ensemble

Middlebury College's swingin' big band makes its annual spring appearance at 51 Main. The joint is always jumpin' when the band is in town. Their music is sure to keep fingers snapping and toes tapping — there might even be dancing in the aisles! Sponsored by the Department of Music.

4/21, FRIDAY, 8 P.M., 51 MAIN

PERFORMING ARTS SPOTLIGHT: AFRICAN MUSIC AND DANCE

By Qian Li (Audrey)
Contributing Columnist

Stop hibernating, and pick up the rhythm of spring! The Middlebury African Music and Dance Ensemble, directed by Assistant Professor of Music Damascus Kafumbe, might just be the event to bring you out of your winter lethargy. On Wednsday, April 26 at 8 p.m., students from the African Music and Dance Performance class will perform in a display that captures communal-based and interactive processes that serve as the backbone of many African societies. Beyond drumming-based practices, this concert will showcase the diversity and richness of African music with a spotlight on the dynamic nature of these traditions. The performance will take place in the Mahaney Center for the Arts's Robinson Hall.

Kafumbe is a native of Uganda. He joined the College in 2011, and in addition to directing the Middlebury African Music and Dance Ensemble, he teaches ethnomusicology/world music courses and maintains the College's Ugandan musical instrument collection. His African Music and Dance Performance class is both a performance course and an ensemble that focuses on East African music and dances. The traditions studied are primarily Ugandan, and throughout the course students learn to play and perform with various instruments, such as bow-harps, thumb-pianos, xylophones and more.

"The music and dances to which I introduce students are non-notational, so they have to learn them through observation, imitation, interaction and collaboration, among other pedagogical procedures that provide somewhat unconventional learning experiences," Kafumbe said. "These experiences impact the students' lives beyond the course. Students are able to transfer the skills — oral, aural, visual, creative, artistic, communication, collaborative and coordination — they learn and hone in the course to other areas of their lives."

Though some students may expect this class to be easy, it is actually highly challenging, as it is designed to give students a rich, hands-on experience in an ensemble setting. Through immersion in East African dance and musical traditions, the course develops through mini lectures, in-class and out-of-class rehearsals, guest lectures, a final concert and reflective writing.

Entering into the class with different backgrounds and levels of musical/dancing experiences, students face various challenges and difficulties working alone and in an ensemble.

"Students' varied musical and performance backgrounds inevitably cause tension," Kafumbe said. "Sometimes, less advanced students might feel overstretched while more advanced students might feel less challenged by the course material. But this forces the students to figure out how they can work together toward their common goal: to perform as an ensemble."

Featuring guest performers, including faculty, students who are outside of the course and Kafumbe's family members, the program will include an original composition inspired by the current political environment. Performers will tell many stories that contextualize and interpret the music and dances that they perform.

DAMASCUS KAFUMBE

"Middlebury African Music and Dance Ensemble" will be presented on April 26.

Student Pianists Perform Bach, Chopin

By John Gosselin
Senior Writer

Sometimes the most intimate settings make for the most moving concerts. The spring piano recital by the students of Diana Fanning was one of those sometimes. The Music Department sponsored the concert which featured 10 students from all years who performed a wide variety of keyboard works. The concert was open to the entire Middlebury community.

The first performer, Chaeree Lee '18, played the andante movement from W.A. Mozart's K. 283 G Major sonata followed by Frederic Chopin's Waltz in A Minor, Op. 34 No. 2. These slower pieces helped to start the concert well by putting the audience into a mood to listen. I enjoyed the Chopin waltz more because of how the waltz rhythm changed so much after the first minute or so. It is an interesting activity to try to hear the difference between a waltz for listening and a waltz for dancing.

Julien Souffrant '19 performed Claude Debussy's Reverie L 68. The popular TV show "Westworld" features this piece prominently in several important dramatic moments. Played in concert, it loses the dramatic connotations but none of the emotional catharsis.

Laura Harris '17 played Franz Schubert's Impromptu in G-flat Major, Op. 90, No. 3, D. 899 and Alberto Ginastera's Danza de la moa donosa from Danza Argentinas, Op. 2, which translates to "dance of the beautiful maiden." Schubert's Impromptus are counted among some of the finest pieces of solo piano music because of their soaring melodies, of which this piece is a fine example. The Ginastera piece reminded me a bit of the Debussy pieces in terms of how it did not seem to include motivic or contrapuntal devices but rather flowed naturally.

Tiansheng Sun '20 shared Enrique Granados' Quejas, O La Maya y el Ruisenor, which translates to "Laments," or "the Maiden and the Nightingale." I was again reminded of the Debussy pieces which came before and after.

Garrett Johnson '20 played Claude Debussy's La Cathedrale Engloutie from his first book of preludes, L 117, which translates to "the sunken cathedral." Watching how this piece was played in person helped me gain a new perspective on it. It is difficult to hear the effect the low notes have on the higher notes in recordings. Hearing it in the concert hall, with the sound filling the room, helps to give a greater sense of what Debussy was trying to do (and succeeded in doing) with this piece.

Andrew Smith '18 performed J.S. Bach's Fugue IX in E Major, BWV 854 from the Well-Tempered Claiver, Book I and Johannes Brahms' Intermezzo in B-Flat Minor, Op. 117. I felt that the intermezzo especially was one of the best pieces of the evening. For the past few weeks, I have listened to Glenn Gould's Brahms recordings on repeat, but hearing it live makes all the difference in the world.

After a brief pause in the concert, it resumed with Junya Iwata's '19 playing of the Allegro from J.S. Bach's Italian Concerto BWV 971 and Gabriel Faure's Nocturne in A-Flat Major, Op. 33, No. 3. Both were played beautifully. After listening to so much impressionist work in the Debussy, it was refreshing to hear some French music in a more classical vein.

Gareth Cordery '20 performed the third movement of Ludwig van Beethoven's Piano Sonata in E-Flat Major, Op.31, No. 3. It was Beethoven's 18th piano sonata, which, along with Op. 49, represent the last entries in his catalogue, which come in sets. The piece has significant portions requiring crossing the hands, like many of the pieces on the program, but the ease and grace with which Gareth played those sections in this piece astounded me. He also performed Claude Debussy's Les sons et parfums tournent dans l'air du soir and Les collines d'Anacapri, both from Book I of his Preludes, and they translate to "sounds and fragrances swirl through the evening air" and "the hills of Anacapri", respectively.

Gloria Breck '19 played the first movement of Dmitri Kabalevsky's Sonata No. in F Major, Op. 46 and the third movement of Beethoven's Sonata in E Major, Op. 109. I was again amazed by the quality of the playing, especially in the Kabalevsky. The storminess communicated in the first movement makes me want to explore this composer's entire catalogue of works.

Finishing the concert after nearly two hours, Zach Blacker '19 performed Chopin's Ballade No. 3 in A-Flat Major, Op. 47. Like the Chopin played by Chaeree Lee '19, the music felt fitting as a transition. The way in which the piece developed over the course of a few minutes blew me away. Overall, this concert was a great experience. I look forward to future concerts by these and other musicians.

BOOKING IT

By Gabrielle Owens
Senior Columnist

THE COLOR OF MAGIC

Terry Pratchett was a masterful writer. His books are full to bursting with wit, riotous plots, engaging action, absurdly entertaining characters, social commentary, comedy and most of all a light-hearted joy that is all too rare these days. Fortunately, he was also incredibly prolific. His "Discworld" series contains over 40 full-length novels, as well as a variety of short stories, companion books and other supplemental material. "The Color of Magic" is the first in the series, but most of the novels work as stand-alone stories, requiring no context from previous ones. No matter which one you choose, you are guaranteed a rollicking journey from one of the greatest fantasy authors ever.

"Discworld" is set on a flat world that is carried on the backs of four elephants standing on the back of a giant turtle who is swimming through space. On this world there are endlessly colorful sets of characters and places, from witches and wizards to con men turned postal workers to high priests of forgotten gods to tourists and so much more.

Characters from one novel will often cameo or crossover with those from a different novel, creating a web of characters and stories. One of the characters who features frequently in other novels is the protagonist of "The Color of Magic:" an incompetent, cowardly, cynical wizard named Rincewind.

"The Color of Magic" begins with the arrival of a rich but naïve man named Twoflower in Ankh-Morpork, Discworld's largest city. Seeking a tourist guide, Twoflower joins up with Rincewind. From then on, the two travel around Discworld together encountering a series of unlikely adventures. It is more or less episodic, with no overarching purpose except for Twoflower's desire to see as much of the world as possible, a parody of the typical fantasy hero quest.

Pratchett at once draws inspiration from and parodies authors such as J.R.R. Tolkien or H.P Lovecraft as well as old folklore and myths. However, "Discworld," for all its comedy, is never once malicious in its satire. It pokes fun at the traditions and stereotypes of fantasy storytelling but in the same breath manages to pay them homage. "Discworld" is rambunctious and joyful as it subverts tropes and mocks audience expectation. In the world of shows such as "Game of Thrones," where so many people seem intent on creating fantasy that is grittier and more 'realistic,' Discworld is a needed reminder that fantasy can be pure fun. It is intended to be enjoyed, perhaps to be escapist and to help let your imagination run wild.

There is often little to no logic in the plot. For instance, in "The Color of Magic," Rincewind and Twoflower encounter a community of people who can summon dragons by imagining them. After getting caught up in a succession intrigue, they eventually escape on the back of a dragon that Twoflower manages to imagine; however, when he passes out, they are left falling through the air. At this point, Rincewind, frantically wishing to be in any other situation than the one he is in, manages to imagine himself and Twoflower briefly into a passenger plane in the real world and quickly imagine them back out of it again, rearranging the entirety of the universe in the process. This moment is absurd and is never mentioned again, but it is hilarious and works as a deus ex machina to rescue them from their fall.

Most of Rincewind's incidents are solved by similar kinds of ridiculous, lucky coincidences, and as a reader you can never quite anticipate what Pratchett may be planning to drop into his lap or on his head. Given the nature of Discworld, Pratchett's excellent sense of balance in the narrative, giving him obstacles more often than solutions and hinting at the solutions just enough that they work, it manages to avoid feeling contrived.

As delightfully silly and amusing as much of the series is, it is not devoid of serious material. In fact, one of Pratchett's greatest strengths is his ability to weave biting social commentary, emotional moments and sometimes even tragedy into his books without ever creating too harsh a shift in tone. There is always some amount of comedy right the way through.

Although you can technically start from almost any book in the series (with a few exceptions: "The Light Fantastic" is a direct sequel to "The Color of Magic," and some of the very late books such as "Raising Steam" would be confusing without some basic background knowledge of a few of the characters), I still highly recommend beginning with "The Color of Magic." It does an excellent job of introducing the zany, comedic tone of the series and gives you a good baseline for what Discworld is like. If you are looking for a book to take you on an adventure that is fun and colorful and rejects the idea that absurdity and happiness are only for children while adults must enjoy gritty realism, Discworld is where you want to go. Find it at the library at go/bookingit.

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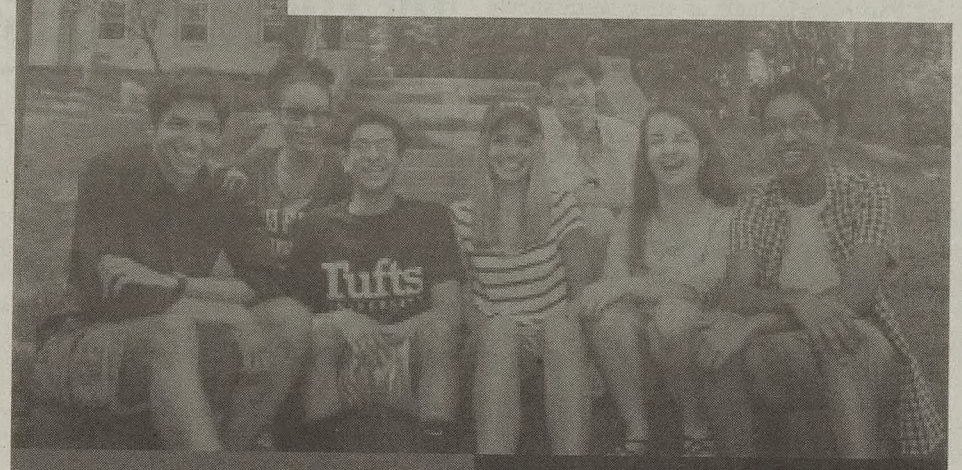

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Strong 2nd Half Sparks a W for Men's Lax

By Colby Morris
Staff Writer

After a tough stretch a few weeks ago and some encouraging steps towards success two weekends ago, the Middlebury Men's lacrosse team finally put it all together this past week. Last week featured two marquee matchups for the team as they took on an athletic Springfield team at home to kick off a three-game homestand.

Springfield was 6-2 entering the game, receiving votes in the NCAA D3 top-25 poll similar to Middlebury, and posed a great matchup and test before a crucial conference game against Trinity on Saturday. The Panthers met and triumphed in both contests, winning 13-12 over Springfield and 11-7 over Trinity.

In the Springfield game, sophomore Chase Midgley '19 started and played all 60 minutes in goal, making 11 saves on 23 shots. Jake Madnick '20 and John Jackson '18 completed a great duo in face offs as Madnick won 13/17 and Jackson won 8/12. On offense, Luke Peterson '19 and Henry Riehl '18 led the way with three goals each, followed closely by A.J. Kucinski '20 who added two shots to the back of the net and two assists. Madnick and Jake DeFrino '17 tied in picking up a team high eight ground balls, four more than the next best result for either team.

After a close loss against Bates the preceding Saturday, this was a great game to win for the Panthers, showing that they could still compete at an elite level even without several key starters who are lost to the year because of injury, including Clay Hunt '19, Jack Gould '19, and Michael McCormick '19.

"Even though we have had injuries other players are stepping up to fill their roles," said Chris Bradbury '19. "Having a win going into a Saturday game is always a big confidence boost which helped us to a win."

Saturday's game featured a matchup between two teams vying to make the NESCAC playoffs as Trinity entered 0-7 in conference games while Middlebury was 2-5 and currently occupies the eighth and last playoff spot. Middlebury started off strongly on Saturday, taking a quick 4-2 lead on goals from Chase Goree '20, Jackson, Peterson and Riehl, but let their lead slip in the second quarter, falling behind 6-5 at the half. The second half was all Panthers though as they were surely inspired by the warm weather and big crowd who came out to Alumni Stadium to support them. The Panthers went on a 6-2 scoring run to close out the game, with goals from Kucinski (2), Danny Jacobs '20, and Riehl (3). Kucinski added four assists to lead Middlebury who earned their third NESCAC victory, putting them in a good position heading into next Saturday's game against Colby College. Midgley had a breakout game in the net too, saving 16/23 shots, cementing himself as a key piece to the Middlebury lineup.

With just two regular season games left, Midd needs to win at least one of more game to clinch a playoff berth. Riehl is having an outstanding season for the Panthers and is just three goals off of the league leading number of 42, and eight off of the league leading assists mark of 36, looking to find himself on an All-NESCAC team at the end of the season.

BY THE NUMB3RS

5 *Goals scored by men's lax's Henry Reihl '18 last weekend in an 11-7 win over Trinity.*

27:23 *Extra time needed for women's lacrosse in their 10-9 OT win last Saturday against Trinity.*

18:01 *Kate MacCary '19's winning time in the women's 5000m last weekend at the Bowdoin invite.*

2 *Consecutive weeks the men's tennis team has been ranked no. 1 in the national polls.*

Women's Lax Wins in Double-OT Thriller

By Jake Turtel
Contributing Writer

In possibly the most thrilling game of the year between last year's Division III National Championship teams, the Middlebury women's lacrosse team, ranked fifth in the country, edged out the sixth-ranked Trinity Bantams in a double-overtime affair. With 2:37 left in the second overtime period, Hollis Perticone '18 gave the Panthers the win, extending their win streak to four.

In Hartford, Conn., the Bantams scored first. However, the Panthers quickly answered with goals by Mary O'Connell '17 and Emma McDonagh '19 – both unassisted. The hosts then netted three consecutive goals to put Trinity up 4-2; Perticone scored the last goal of the half with just over 10 minutes remaining, bringing the Panthers to within one at the intermission.

The second half was a back and forth battle starting with two more goals by McDonagh giving her a hat trick for the day. Trinity quickly regained the lead, however, with two more goals before O'Connell and McDonagh netted their second and fourth of the day, respectively — McDonagh's goal was assisted by O'Connell, which was the 100th assist of her career. O'Connell is now only the third player ever in program history to achieve such a milestone. After a Bantam tally, Sara DiCenso '19 regained the lead for the Panthers; but this advantage was short lived as Trinity scored two more goals in a span of 90 seconds, giving them the lead.

With two minutes remaining in the game, O'Connell played heartbreaker, tying the game up at nine. The first overtime period was scoreless, a defensive battle. Rather than disappointing, the first OT only added to the drama of the game.

In the second overtime period, Perticone drove to the net, ripped the ball into the back corner and sealed the deal for the Panthers; subsequently, sticks, gloves and eyewear were thrown into the air as the squad celebrated. It was the 20th goal of the season for Perticone.

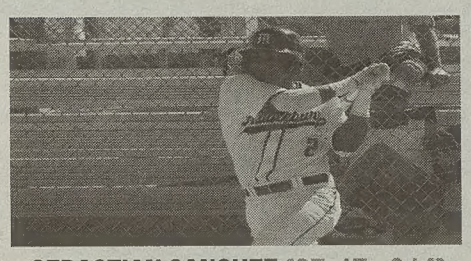
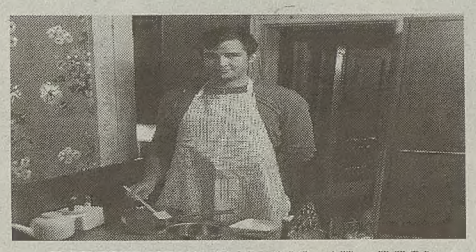
"The most exciting thing about the overtime was how many times we were able to stop Trinity," said Dicenso. "They won the draw in the first two overtimes and we played two sets of 3 minutes of awesome man defense and forced them to make bad shots. Also, Kate Furber '19 came up really strong in goal. Perticone and Smith had an awesome double that caused the Bantams to turn the ball over which brought us down to score."

In an even game in pretty much every statistical category, the Panthers came out of Connecticut with the win in a title game rematch. O'Connell paced Middlebury with five points – three goals and two assists.

"Our captains reminded us that we had come so far and fought so hard through the game that there was no reason to give up now," Dicenso continued. "We knew we needed this win to solidify our spot in the NESCAC and were determined to win in overtime after suffering our other two losses of the season in overtime."

With three games left in the regular season, Middlebury is heating up at the right time. The team will travel to Colby next Saturday, April 22, for their next conference matchup.

EDITORS' PICKS

	Men's Lax: Can the Panthers pull a game closer to .500 with a win over Colby this weekend?	OVER/UNDER: 10 combined strikeouts for softball ace Alison Quigley '18 against Wesleyan this weekend?	Golf: Let's try this again assuming the women's team actually plays this weekend...lowest scorers for men's and women's teams?	NBA Playoffs, Futures Bet: Do the Bulls pull off the series upset of the Celtics?
WILL CASE (90-52, .633)	YES They'll get back to .500 to wrap up the season on a high note.	OVER She'll probably throw in both games and Wesleyan is at the bottom of the standings, but her total will be close.	ANDRADE '17 and LEVINS '20 The closer he gets to the NESCAC tournament, the better Andrade plays and Levins has put in the work and played well these last few weeks.	YES We'll take it in 6!!!!!!
 **SEBASTIAN SANCHEZ** (27-17, .614)	YES Home field advantage.	OVER I've been covering this squad for almost a year now. She will undoubtedly do it.	MORIN '19 and FORTIN '18. I'm going with Em on this one.	YES It's Chicago's year, baby.
 **ROBERT ERICKSON** (19-15, .559)	YES Colby has won one conference game?	OVER I like conformity.	REID BUZBY '19, KATHARINE FORTIN '18 Am I playing it safe? Maybe.	NO Settle down, Will.
EMILY BUSTARD (99-100, .497)	YES I'm pretty optimistic about it.	OVER As a Softball ace, Alison will totally ace this.	MORIN '19 and FORTIN'18 This is the same thing I said last week.	NO Boston > Chicago

Track & Field Squad Sprints to Second Place

By Robert Erickson
Sports Editor

In this, the fourth week of Middlebury Track and Field's outdoor season, the team headed over to Brunswick, Maine to compete in the Bowdoin Invitational on Saturday, April 15. Overall, both Panther teams performed rather well: the women wound up second out of four teams, their 89 total points only two behind the victorious Polar Bears' 91, and the men wound up second out of three teams with 92 total points. In almost every single event a Middlebury athlete finished somewhere in the top three and the men and women combined for a total of seven event victories and one new school record.

Before the meet, Head Coach Martin Beatty '84 explained how large of an impact being outdoors has on the team. "Everyone is always excited to get outside on the outdoor track," he said. "It is a different sport. The analogy is going from bumper pool to a regular billiards table. It is also nice to be in the outdoors after feeling cooped up for the winter."

But that's not to say the transition doesn't require some adjustments. "The environment is controlled indoors," Beatty said. "Outside there are different factors to deal with such as wind, temperature, etc. These elements play a role in performance, and one's technique needs to adjust accordingly."

In particular, it was the field athletes who seemed to profit most from the sunshine this past Saturday, accounting for five of the Panthers' seven event victories. For the women, Kristin Kimble '19 won the high jump after successfully leaping over 5'0.25" and Kreager Taber '19 cleared a height of 10'2" in the pole vault. On the men's side, Nathaniel Albers '20 jumped over 13'9.25" to win the pole vault, Taylor Moore '18 finished first in the javelin with a throw of 170'7" and Jonathan Fisher '20 racked up 5,095 points in the decathlon.

The track athletes had their share of outstanding performances, too. Katherine MacCary '19 won the 5,000-meter race handily in 18:00.95, some 18 seconds ahead of the second-place finisher. Arden Coleman '20 snagged first place in the 400-meter dash with a winning time of 49.87.

And last but not least, the women's 4x100 relay team of Ellie Greenberg '20, Natalie Cheung '18, Maddie Pronovost '17 and Elizabeth Walkes '20 set a new school record of 49.09 seconds, lowering the one set two weeks prior at Point Loma Nazarene University in California.

Cheung couldn't suppress her excitement about this year's 4x100 team. "This is the first time the women's team has had a really solid 4x1 in a few years," she said, "and it's really exciting. We're hoping to drop our time this weekend at Albany and go into NESCACs with a fast seed. [First-year] relay member Lizzie Walkes has nicknamed the relay the '4xFun' with good reason."

"We have really been focusing on running as a team rather than as individuals, and that's been really important. The team has been having a great year, and we're all really excited for NESCACs."

NATALIE CHEUNG '18

Looking forward, Panther athletes will be competing in two separate meets this weekend: the Larry Ellis Invitational at Princeton on Friday and the Albany Invitational on Saturday. They following week, they will be headed back to Bowdoin for the NESCAC championship meet.

When asked how she felt about where the team stood after Saturday's meet, Cheung had positive things to offer. "The Bowdoin Invite got us all really excited for the end of our regular season and the beginning of post season," she said. "We've really been focusing on running as a team rather than as individuals, and that's been really important."

"The team has been having a great year, and we're all really excited for NESCACs. All our excitement really just comes back to Coach Martin Beatty, so we hope we can earn him a NESCACs victory."

Softball Takes Two From Hamilton in NESCAC Showdown

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

Hye-Jin Kim '17 started things off with a basic hit and scored on double down the left-field line by Taylor Gardner '18, who later advanced on a pass ball and scored on a fielders choice. The Panthers held a 4-0 lead until the bottom of the fifth when Hamilton's Kendall Searcy drew a bases-loaded walked for the first run and Emily Fraser brought the second and third runs home with a two-run double. The score remained that way until the seventh.

The Panthers had not scored since the fourth and they could not generate anything in the second half of the game. In the bottom of the seventh, down by one, the Continentals hit back-to-back singles with two outs. Hamilton's Sophie Cerreta sealed the deal with a three-run walk-off home run to end the game 6-4. Irene Margiotta tossed the first 4.1 innings while Quigley took the loss giving up three runs on five hits.

Though they had lost on a walk-off, Middlebury was ready for redemption. In the nightcap, the Panthers scored in each of the five innings. Quigley brought home the first run with an RBI double in the gap; Liza Tarr '19 smacked a run-scoring double in the second and Della Volpe made it 3-0 with an RBI groundout.

It was in the third, however, that the offensive floodgates opened up scoring six runs including a two-run homer to left center off the bat of Quigley and a double by Gardner that plated two more runs for a 9-0 advantage.

In the fourth, Gardner plated another RBI for a 10-0 lead, followed by a run-scoring base hit in the fifth to extend the lead to 11-0. Hamilton pushed a single run in the bottom of the fifth for the final score 11-1.

Quigley picked up the win in the circle, allowing just one run on four hits with three strikeouts in her eighth complete game of the spring. She went 4-4 at the plate with four RBI's, while Della Volpe and Gardner both had doubles and scored twice.

"We came out with high energy and cheered very loudly," said Della Volpe '18. "Also on the way to Hamilton we watched Remember the Titans, which really pumped us up for the weekend, especially the second game. We started quoting lines from the movie, which helped everyone to loosen up."

The Panthers return to action this weekend with their third NESCAC series of the season against the Wesleyan Cardinals.

THE MIDDLEBURY GREAT 8 EIGHT

RANKING TEAM
SEB'S SUGGESTIONS

1 **WOMEN'S LAX**
2 OT win for the girls is huge as they near the end of regular season

2 **MEN'S TENNIS**
Impressive feat to beat Bowdoin at home last weekend and maintain #1.

3 **BASEBALL**
The boys are hot and three games away from playoff potential.

4 **SOFTBALL**
Four game win streak heading into the weekend. They are rollin'

5 **WOMEN'S TENNIS**
Our squad is ranked third and hungry to get to the top — R.I.P MIT and Trinity.

6 **MEN'S LAX**
Two games left in the regular season. We believe in you.

7 **MEN'S GOLF**
Successful day out on the green for our boys. They are back at it next weekend.

8 **DUNMORE**
was perfect last weekend. Let's remember.

Golf Improves during NESCAC Qualifier

By Will Case
Sports Editor

Last week, April 14-15, the men's golf team was back on the course in competitive play for the first time since the fall NESCAC Qualifier. They took part in the Kravetz Invitational at the Irondequiot and Oak Hill Country Clubs in Pittsford, NY, finishing first in the six-team field as they continue tuning up for the NESCAC Tournament that will take place next weekend, April 29-30, at Taconic Golf Club in Williamstown, Mass.

The Panthers finished with a two-day total of 637, but shaved 17 strokes off of their first round on the second day when they shot a collective 310. The tournament winner was McDaniel College which beat-out Franklin & Marshall via a tiebreaker as both finished with a 617.

Phil Morin '19 and Rodrigo Andrade '17 were the team's low scorers, as both shot two day totals of 155 to tie for eighth place. Morin took seven strokes off of his Saturday total when he carded a 74 on day two for the team's lowest round of the weekend. Andrade took three shots off of his day one total of 79 with a 76 on Sunday.

Reid Buzby '19 was next in line for the Panthers, as he shot an 82 on Saturday but recovered for with a 77 on Sunday. Buzby, a native of San Francisco, CA, is benefitting from his experience last year when it comes to getting used to taking several months off between competitive outings due to the harsh northeast winters.

"Last year I wasn't really sure how to approach the offseason because I had never gone through a winter without playing golf," Buzby said.

"I think I tried to do too much with my game when practicing indoors. This year I didn't try to do too much over the offseason, I wasn't worried about what my swing looked like. My game definitely feels like it is in a better place than last spring, and with some more practice these next few weeks I think I can get it back to what it was this past fall."

David McDaniel '19, who played an important role in the Panthers' qualification for NESCACs in the fall, shot an 85 on Saturday and an 83 on Sunday as he looks to regain that fall form.

The women's team did not compete in the Jack Leaman Invitational at the Hickory Ridge Golf Club in Amherst, Mass., as scheduled, but first-year Chloe Levins '20 did partake and shot a 76 and an 83 for a tournament total of 159.

Both teams will be back in action at the Taconic Golf Club in Williamstown, Mass., this weekend, April 22-23, as they play in separate tournaments hosted by Williams. The men's squad will be playing to tune up for NESCACs on the same course next week, April 29-30, while the women's squad takes center stage in what will be the de facto spring conference championships and their last tournament of the season.

TENNIS TEAMS VIE FOR SPOTS AT TOP OF NATIONAL POLLS

By Claire Messersmith
Staff Writer

Both the men's and women's tennis teams claimed their names in Maine this past Friday and Saturday, April 14-15, as both teams defeated Colby and Bowdoin. The men's team remains no. 1 in the national polls while the women's team has moved up to no. 3.

The men's side knocked off no. 4 Bowdoin 6-3 in what was a rematch of last year's NCAA Championship. This is Middlebury's seventh-consecutive win, now 5-0 in the NESCAC.

Lubo Cuba '19 commented on his team's success, "If one guy struggled, the team was there to help him, and I think this supportive team environment is what really sets us apart."

The no. 1 tandem of Cuba and William de Quant '18 edged their opponents with an 8-4, putting Middlebury up 1-0 as the match opened. At number 3, Timo van der Geest '18 and Peter Martin '19 notched a key victory at the end of doubles play, giving the Panthers a 2-1 edge.

In singles, Cuba grabbed a 6-2, 2-6, 6-2 victory at the top seed, while Hamid Derbani '17, Kyle Schlanger '18 and Allen Jackson '17 followed up with three more victories, Jackson closing out singles play at no. 6 with a 6-2, 4-6, 6-2 triumph, putting Middlebury ahead at 6-3 as the final score.

On Friday, April 14, the previous day, the top-ranked team had kicked off its roadtrip to Maine with a 7-2 win over Colby (10-5, 2-3).

On the women's side, the third-ranked team put up its winning streak to five in a row, sweeping Colby 9-0 on Friday, April 14, and cruising past no. 7 Bowdoin on Saturday, April 15.

"Coming off of last weekend [against Tufts and Williams], everyone was excited and confident in their playing," said Heather Boehm '20. "We knew that we had the ability to be a strong team this year, but we had no idea just how good we could be together."

The team started things off at Colby by notching all three points during doubles play, the no. 1 team of Skylar Schossberger '20 and Katherine Hughes '20 posting an 8-0 victory. On the singles side, Boehm was a 6-0, 6-1 winner at no. 3 as the Panthers blanked their opponents.

On Saturday, Middlebury claimed all three doubles matches and only suffered one loss in singles.

"The key thing that gets us through these matches successfully is our energy," Boehm commented. "The support we give to each other from between and off the courts gives us a huge advantage over other teams."

Both Panther teams face two Connecticut NESCAC rivals, Trinity and Wesleyan, at home on Saturday and Sunday, April 22-23, at the courts outside of Proctor.

GOOD IN GOAL

For coverage of the men's lacrosse team's successful week, see story on page 18.

MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

BASEBALL BREAKS OUT BROOMS VS. HAMILTON

By Jordan Howell
Staff Writer

The baseball team swept divisional opponent Hamilton to close last week's action on April 14 and 15. The Panthers now stand at 9-10 overall and a game over .500 in conference play.

The Panthers won a decisive 3-0 victory over the Continentals Friday afternoon on the right arm of first-year Spencer Shores '20. Shores went eight innings and tossed 12 strikeouts, giving up only six hits, a walk and a healthy HBP.

The game was scoreless heading into the sixth until Sam Graf '19 got the Panthers' Ryan Rizzo '17 across the plate with an infield single deep into the hole to the shortstop. The scoring continued in the bottom of the seventh where designated hitter Alan Guild '20 hit a solo shot over the wall in right center to put the Panthers up 2-0. A couple of batters later, Jason Lock '17 drove in Brooks Carroll '20 with a single up the middle. That pushed the score to 3-0, which Conor Himstead '19 preserved in the ninth as he struck out the side.

Shores got his second win of the season and of his career thus far. Himstead racked up his third save of the season, while Rizzo, Graf, Lock and Guild led the way for the Panthers at the dish.

The Panthers were able to carry their momentum from Friday afternoon's victory when the teams met again for a doubleheader on Saturday.

In the first game, the Panthers pulled out a come-from-behind 6-5 victory.

Hamilton was up 4-0 going into the first when Carroll came to the plate with Justin Han '20 in scoring position. Carroll was able to hit a sharp single to push Han across and begin a three-run inning for the Panthers. Carroll would score on a Lock single to center before the Panthers had a stroke of luck when Raj Palekar '18 hit a popup that the Hamilton shortstop lost in the sun and bobbled that allowed Lock to score.

Middlebury scored again in the bottom of the sixth to tie the game at four. However, this was quickly taken away when Hamilton went up one after scoring in the top of the seventh.

On their last legs, the Panthers came up in the bottom of the seventh needing some timely production. Phil Bernstein '19 answered the call.

Palekar reached the base on a fielder's choice when an error allowed Graf to score to tie things up at five. Palekar eventually got into scoring position and Bernstein came up with a chance to notch one in the win column for Middlebury. Bernstein continued what has been a fantastic sophomore season with a shot up the middle to give the Panthers a well-deserved win in what was an all-around team effort.

In the final matchup of the three game set on Saturday afternoon, the Panthers once again came from behind and won another thriller by one run, this time 7-6.

Already holding a 3-2 in the top of the sixth, Hamilton scored three more runs and it appeared the Camels had blown the game open and would take a game off the Panthers. However, the Panthers never quit and rose to the occasion.

In the bottom of the sixth, Guild tripled to left center to score both Bernstein and Han. After a ground out by Rizzo, Guild scored on a wild pitch to bring the Panthers within one.

The Panthers kept the pedal to the metal and before the pivotal sixth ended Carroll singled through the left side to bring home Andrew Corcoran '18 to tie the game at six apiece.

The 6-6 tie held until the bottom of the eighth, by which point the Panthers clearly held all of the momentum. Middlebury got the edge when Graf doubled down the leftfield line to bring home Lock and put the Panthers ahead for good 7-6.

The top of the ninth was not without some measure of fanfare however, but a putout at home and two successive quick outs were enough to seal the deal.

The Panthers will be back in action tomorrow and Saturday, April 21-22, for an important three game set with Wesleyan.

SOFTBALL'S WEEKEND SUCCESS

By Sebastian Sanchez
Sports Editor

Following a tough weekend against Amherst, Middlebury's softball team headed up to Clinton, N.Y., to compete against the Hamilton Continentals for their second NESCAC series of the season.

On Friday, April 14, Allison Quigley '18 started on the mound against Hamilton's Zoe Singer. Quigley, who boasts a solid 5-4 record, is one of three starting pitchers; she consistently throws strikes, gets outs and can throw complete games as well as contribute to her team's offense. On Friday, she went 2-4 at the plate, including a double and an RBI.

In game one of the series, Middlebury got on the board first as Ali Della Volpe '18 singled through the infield and later scored on a fielder's choice — Della Volpe has had an impressive junior year so far with a .348 batting average and seven RBI's. The Continentals, however, responded in the bottom of the inning with three runs, two of which were unearned. With a 3-1 lead, Hamilton held the lead through the second.

"In the first game on Friday we played very clean defense as a team and also stayed focused on offense, which led to our success," Della Volpe said.

The Panthers came right back in the third inning. Della Volpe started the rally, reaching on an error, while Kati Dackzowski '18 and Sarah Freye '17 walked to load the bases for Melanie Mandell '20. Mandell, who has had an amazing first year campaign, — batting .459 with a .820 slugging percentage, 21 RBI's and three home runs — continued to live up to her offensive potential. She smashed a triple in the gap to give Middlebury a 4-3 lead. Quigley helped herself out by crushing a double to deep center to add another tally and she scored when captain Siobhan O'Sullivan '17 hit a deep sac-fly to the outfield.

The Panthers led 6-3 until the bottom of the fourth when Hamilton tacked on its final two runs making it a one-run 6-5 game. But Quigley held the Continentals to zero runs for the rest of the game as Middlebury tacked on two insurance runs at the top of the seventh and went on to win 8-5.

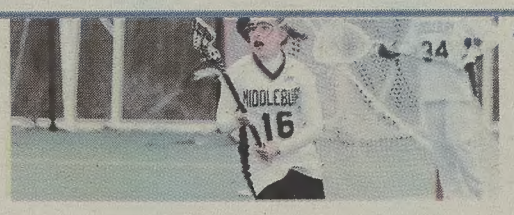
"After our loss in game two, we learned that we could not leave nearly as many runners on base as we did and still come out on top. We knew we had to refocus," Della Volpe '18 said.

On the second day, Saturday April 15, Middlebury geared up to try to sweep Hamilton for the Double Header. In game one, the Panthers got on the board first as Della Volpe drew a leadoff walk, coming all the way around to score on a passed ball. With a 1-0 lead in the first, Mandell also drew a walk and scored on a single by Erin Giles '17.

Middlebury continued its offensive power as they scored another two runs in the second.

SEE SOFTBALL, PAGE 19

INSIDE SPORTS



WOMEN'S LACROSSE
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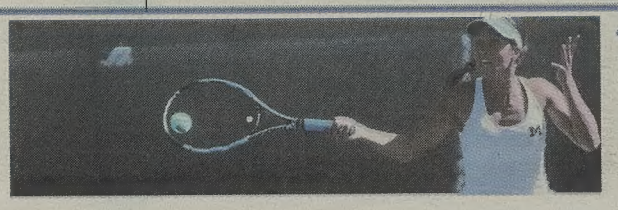

MEN'S AND WOMEN'S TENNIS
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